

## House Debate Delays Vote On Oil Tax

By EDDIE LYONS  
Times Montgomery Correspondent

MONTGOMERY — All but one of Gov. George C. Wallace's proposals to make up a shortfall in the state's general fund passed the Alabama House today and companion bills were slated for a vote this afternoon in the Senate.

Related Stories on page A-5

At noon the House was debating a controversial proposal to increase the oil severance tax.

Oil industry executives contend Wallace violated a campaign promise with his push for a 2 percent increase in the severance tax.

Oil company officials tried Wednesday to fight the additional levy, but they lost lopsided votes in the Senate Finance and Taxation Committee and the House Ways and Means Committee.

WALLACE'S OTHER financial bills, designed to add \$8 million to the general fund and improve the state's cash flow, also won committee approval. That put them in position for House and Senate votes today, keeping the Legislature on the five-day meeting schedule Wallace proposed when he called the special session to address the state's less-than-expected revenue.

The House Ways and Means Committee passed the proposed oil severance tax increase by a 9-3 vote and a subcommittee of the Senate Finance and Taxation Committee passed it by a 6-4 margin.

Both committees listened to hours of testimony from oil company officials who quickly gathered at the Capitol to protest the increase of the severance tax from 8 percent to 10 percent.

Charles Spruell, the head of Mobil Oil Co.'s exploration and development in the southeastern United States, complained the tax would add to his company's huge costs in developing its Mobile Bay gas field.

He and other oil company representatives told the Ways and Means panel that firms had to look at such costs in deciding whether it will be profitable to develop a find.

"Certain marginal fields will not be developed because of the added costs," warned Bruce Hackett of Exxon Corp.

BUT TAX INCREASE proponents doubted it would hinder oil and gas development.

"Why in the world would the state want to run these people

off?" asked Rep. John Casey of Heflin. "I don't think this tax is going to drive a single producer out."

The companies "singled themselves out" when they refused to drop a lawsuit opposing the current, smaller, severance tax, he said.

The Wallace administration pushed for the increase after it failed to reach an agreement with the companies that would have brought over \$18 million into the general fund from the current tax.

Sen. Bill Smith, a member of the general fund subcommittee of the Finance and Taxation committee, said he abstained from its vote because he wanted more information on the lawsuit. Rep. Steve Hettinger of Huntsville voted for the increase in the Ways and Means committee.

With the state budget deficit estimated at \$25 million, officials predict that the new oil and gas tax would bring in just under \$10 million extra during this fiscal year.

In an effort to make up the rest of the deficit, House and Senate committees passed, with little or no objections, several other measures to streamline the state's handling of money.

HOUSE SPEAKER Tom Drake said Wednesday afternoon he expected the Legislature to postpone its Friday session until late in the day so that lawmakers may attend the funeral of former University of Alabama Coach Paul "Bear" Bryant.

But the Legislature, which began meeting Tuesday, will still be on its five-day schedule for passing the budget package, he said.

Legislative leaders expect the bills to gain final approval of the Legislature Saturday.

Wallace's bill originally would have removed all tax breaks on oil and natural gas wells in Alabama, but with Wallace's approval, the bill was amended in the House and Senate to restore a tax break for oil wells that produce less than 40 barrels of oil a day. The change will have a major impact in the Citronelle area, where many aging oil wells have begun to run their course.

The change will reduce the amount of new state revenue generated by the bill from \$19 million to \$16 million annually.

WALLACE'S OTHER financial bills would:

Turn to Page A-5

### Index

Abby .....	B-8
Andy .....	B-8
Bridge .....	B-8
Calendar .....	B-7
Classified .....	C-8
Comics .....	C-11
Crossword .....	C-11
Deaths .....	C-7
Editorials .....	A-10
Extra .....	B-6
Farm .....	C-12
Gallup Poll .....	A-12
Heloise .....	B-8
Horoscope .....	B-7
Markets .....	C-2
Movies .....	ShowTimes
Sports .....	B-1
TV Log .....	ShowTimes

60 Pages Today

### Forecast

Partly cloudy tonight. Partly cloudy and warmer Friday. High today around 40. Low tonight near 30 and high Friday near 50. (Details Page A-2)

## Here Comes That Rainy Day Feeling

The Tennessee Valley was in for another soaking last night from .38 of an inch of rainfall recorded at the National Weather Service Office at the Huntsville-Madison County Jetplex.

Last night's accumulation leaves precipitation totals 2.43 inches below average for the year.

This latest dose of the drizzle was caused by a low pressure system moving east across the northern gulf region. Southern parts of the state received Up to one inch of rain.

Weather watchers say the soggy system should move out of the area by midafternoon, but not before it mixes with a few possible snow flurries which could make for slick streets. No significant accumulation is expected.

Colder air is due to move into the area tonight dropping temperatures to around 30 degrees tonight. Temperatures should moderate somewhat Friday as sunshine returns to the state leading to high hopes for a mild weekend.

# Eulogies Laud Bryant As 'American Hero'

By HOYT HARWELL

TUSCALOOSA, Ala. (AP) — "We Americans lost a hero who always seemed larger than life," President Reagan said as eulogies poured in today from every corner of the country for Paul William "Bear" Bryant, who died here Wednesday at age 69.

Four weeks to the day after he shuffled off into retirement as the winningest coach in the history of his sport, the University of Alabama football mentor died of a heart attack in Druid City Hospital in the early afternoon.

HIS FUNERAL, with all members of his 1982 Alabama football team serving as honorary pallbearers, will be Friday, university officials said.

Bryant will be buried in Birmingham at Elmwood Cemetery following the 10 a.m. memorial service at First Methodist Church here.

The Bryant family requested that no flowers be sent to the family residence or the funeral home handling arrangements.

The family asked that any memorial contributions be sent to the University of Alabama athletic department in care of the Paul W. Bryant Museum, University of Alabama Scholarship Fund, the Paul W. Bryant Scholarship Fund or the Mary Harmon Bryant Chapel Fund.

University officials said there would be graveside services at the 12:30 p.m. burial Friday at Elmwood in Birmingham. Eight members of the 1982 Alabama team will be active pallbearers. They are to be selected later.

BRYANT'S DEATH stunned Alabama's followers and reduced strong young athletes to tears.

Flags at the Alabama State Capitol in Montgomery flew at half-staff today as though a national hero had fallen. And for many, one had, as President Reagan said.

As an Arkansas farmboy, Bryant wrestled a bear. As a man, he wrestled with everything else — a drive for perfection the world of college football had never seen before.

He was craggy-faced, gravel-voiced, the toughest kind of field master, the softest touch to friends in need. He lived football.

"Quit coaching? I'd croak in a week," he once said. It took almost a month.

THE ENTIRE 1982 Alabama football team — a squad that struggled to an un-Bryant-like 8-4 record but capped the Bear's career with a 21-15 victory over Illinois in his final game at the Liberty Bowl last Dec. 29 — will serve as honorary pallbearers at funeral services Friday.

Eight will be selected to carry the casket of Bryant, who earned his famed nickname as a youth when he wrestled a bear in a traveling circus. He will be buried at Elmwood Cemetery in Birmingham after services at the First Methodist Church in Tuscaloosa.

MANY OF THE foremost figures in college football are expected to attend, many of them Bryant disciples who played or coached under him during the course of his record-setting 38-year career.

Bryant's death, caused by a sudden massive heart attack at a hospital one day after he was admitted with chest pains, left

Turn to Page A-2, Column 1

## Ex-Players Remember 'Teacher'

By JOHN PRUETT  
Times Sports Editor

Billy Neighbors, who was Paul "Bear" Bryant's first All-America football player at the University of Alabama, said it as well as anyone — and better than most.

"He taught me about life," said Neighbors, a native of Northport and now a stockbroker in Huntsville. "He taught me how to be a man. He taught me how to be a football player. He taught me how to be a gentleman."

"Everything I know about being a person, I owe to him."

Neighbors, who will be inducted into the Alabama Sports Hall of Fame next month, was noticeably shaken when he spoke of Paul Bryant, who died Wednesday of a massive heart attack just six weeks after announcing his retirement as Alabama's head football coach.

"I'm terribly upset," said Neighbors, an All-America lineman at Alabama in 1961 and later an all-pro player in the National Football League. "I loved him and I'll miss him. He was like a father to me. He was one of the



(Times Photo by Rod Whited)

BRYANT IN FAMILIAR POSE BEFORE AUBURN GAME

finest men I've ever known."

Neighbors, who was one of Bryant's closest business advisers in recent years, spoke at length with his former coach the day before he died.

"I talked to him on the phone yesterday (Tuesday) afternoon for an hour," said Neighbors. "This was in this office a few hours before he went to the hospital. We just went over some business plans. He was in great spirits. He was talking about going hunting in Florida or someplace. He seemed the same as he's always been for the last 15 years."

"I'm having a hard time accepting what's happened."

Like Neighbors, many of Bryant's former players now live in Huntsville, and several of them expressed similar sentiments.

"It's quite a shock," said Dave Singleton, who played on Bryant's first Alabama team in 1958. "I heard he was in the hospital but we didn't think it was anything serious. I thought he was in pretty good health."

"He'll leave a void for quite a while. It's a shame he couldn't enjoy retirement. He lived

a hard, fast life and had a fabulous career."

Singleton said he will always cherish his one season with Bryant.

"I was a senior when he got there, and we'd won only a couple of games my sophomore and junior years," he said. "When he showed up, we saw the difference between winning and losing. He came in with good coaches, he was organized to a 'T,' and he worked harder than anybody else. I guess that was the main thing I learned from him — to be successful, you should work hard and organize, and if you did those things, you could overcome a lot of things. I remember one day we got on the bus to go to Starkville to play Mississippi State, and we just had 28 players on the bus. Everybody else was either hurt or had quit. But we won that day, 9-7."

"It was a great honor for me to play for him. I wish it'd been more than one year. The year I had, I enjoyed — after it was over."

"This is an emotional day," said former Crimson Tider Buster Frank, one of two sons of the late Milton Frank who played for

Turn to Page A-2, Column 4



# Eulogies Laud Coach Bryant

Continued From Page A-1

Crimson Tide followers in tears. Some wept on the air as radio stations broke off regular programming to open call-in shows about Bryant.

The death was also mourned at the highest levels of government.

Reagan eulogized Bryant as "a hard, but loved, taskmaster. Patriotic to the core, devoted to his players and inspired by a winning spirit that would not quit, Bear Bryant gave this country the gift of a life unsurpassed."

Alabama Gov. George C. Wallace, ordering flags at the Capitol lowered, called Bryant "a man among men who brought great fame and honor to Alabama."

Bryant captured the imagination of many by sending his often small, always well-disciplined teams to the top of the rankings, winning national titles in 1961, 1964 and 1965.

Later he would add two more — in 1978 and 1979 — and closed his career with a 323-85-17 record. He passed Amos Alonzo Stagg's record mark of 314 career victories in 1981.

Bryant's death was unexpected, even though he suffered from mild heart trouble in recent years.

His doctor, William A. Hill, said Bryant's heart stopped at 12:24 p.m. Wednesday and efforts to restore his heartbeat began immediately.

"We did put a pacemaker through his chest and were able to restore a weak heartbeat" for about an hour, Hill said. Bryant was declared dead at 1:30 p.m.

Hill said Bryant suffered "a sudden cardiopulmonary arrest" only moments after appearing in good spirits, joking with nurses and making plans for a duck hunting trip to his native Arkansas. He said the cause of death was "a massive coronary occlusion."

MEMBERS OF Bryant's family, including his wife, Mary Harmon Bryant, were summoned to Druid City Hospital and were present when he was pronounced dead.

Hill said Mrs. Bryant "showed a great amount of courage. She held up well, certainly with a high degree of dignity."

The family — Bryant also is survived by a son and daughter — asked that no flowers be sent. They asked that any memorial contributions be made to the university's athletic department in care of scholarship funds.

Ray Perkins, the former Alabama star and New York Giants coach who was picked to succeed Bryant last month, learned of the death while on a recruiting trip in North Carolina.

Perkins, who planned to cut short his trip and return to Tuscaloosa, said Bryant, who was to have remained at Alabama as athletic director, was "a greater man than a football coach because of what he has meant to so many people during their playing careers and then afterward."

"All you had to do was call on the man," Perkins said. "If you had done right by him, there was nothing he wouldn't do for you. Coach Bryant, to those who have been associated with him, has been much more than just a genius with X's and O's."

Bryant, whose 38-year career spanned coaching stints at Maryland, Kentucky, Texas A&M and finally Alabama for the last quarter-century, sent players like Joe Namath, Lee Roy Jordan, Ken Stabler and Richard Todd to the pros.

Others among "Bear's Boys," who became head coaches and are still active, include Bum Phillips of the New Orleans Saints, Charley Pelford of Florida, Danny Ford of Clemson, Jackie Sherrill of Texas A&M, Howard Schnellenberger of Miami, Pat Dye of Auburn, Jerry Claiborne of Kentucky, Steve Sloan of Duke and Perkins.

HILL, AT a news conference at the hospital, said Bryant had been on medicine for mild heart trouble the past few years. He said Bryant was visiting Tuesday with a close friend, Jimmy Hinton of Tuscaloosa, when he complained of chest pains and was taken to the hospital by ambulance.

Shortly before going to the hospital, Bryant had talked about his life since retirement.

"I don't wake up in the middle of the night any more sweating and worrying," he said then. "I haven't looked at a football film. I may never see another football film."

For most of his life, football consumed him. He discovered the sport as a tall, raw-boned Arkansas



(Times Photo by Dave Dieter)

## FLAG LOWERED FOR BRYANT Huntsville High Honors Coach

country boy and used it as a way out of the poverty of his youth in Moro Bottom, Ark.

He became a coach after playing as a two-way end for Alabama and by the end of his career he was far, far removed from the hardscrabble life of his youth. He had wealth, celebrity, friendships with presidents.

To a nation that watched college football on Saturdays, he was that gruff-talking man in the houndstooth hat whose teams played to win — and most often did.

He went to Maryland in 1945, fresh from serving in the Navy during World War II, began his career with a 60-6 rout of Guilford and finished his first year as a head coach with a 6-2-1. Some 317 victories were still to come.

Then he moved to Kentucky, where in eight seasons his teams went 60-23-5, appeared in four bowls and, most memorably, whipped Oklahoma 13-7 in the 1951 Sugar Bowl to end a 31-game Sooner winning streak.

In 1954, his first year at Texas A&M, Bryant went 1-9, the only losing season of his life. Before that campaign, Bryant took two busloads of players to training camp at a dusty spot called Junction, Texas. It was hot and it was brutal. By the end, barely one-fourth, 27 players, stuck with him.

But he had laid the groundwork for a 24-5-2 mark the rest of the way at Texas A&M, winning a Southwest Conference title in 1956. Also while at A&M, Bryant produced his only Heisman Trophy winner, halfback John David Crow.

Alabama had won a total of only four games in the three years before Bryant came home — hearing "Mama call," as he put it. His first Crimson Tide team went 5-4-1. His second one went 7-2-2, inaugurating the Liberty Bowl and a record 24 consecutive bowl trips for Alabama.

In 1961, Alabama won its first national title with an 11-0 season.

A legend at Alabama had been born. A legend now reserved to memory.

# Ex-Players Remember 'Teacher'

Continued From Page A-1

Bryant in the late 1950s and early 1960s. "It's a shame he couldn't have enjoyed retired life. It's almost like he planned it this way."

"As far as I'm concerned, this is second only to the death of my own father."

"He was fair with people and went out of his way to take care of his players," said Frank. "He tried to prepare them for later on, whether they played football or not. A lot of folks wouldn't be where they are today without him, including me."

"The way he went, he probably wouldn't have wanted it any other way. I always wondered how he'd be able to stand it, watching the team but not coaching."

"Everyone is saddened by the news," said insurance man Robby Rowan. "I think the greatest thing that spoke to me about Coach Bryant was the fact that he was such a realist. He always planned to win but he also taught you to have a plan if you lose. Now, I can relate to what he was saying better than when I was in school. All my days aren't winning national championships, and all my days aren't on top of the world. Life has its peaks, but it also has its valleys, and he was preparing us for those valleys, educating us on striving to win but also having a plan for when you don't win. I appreciate it in a practical way now."

Rowan recalled the day he decided to accept a scholarship to Alabama. "Growing up, I was a Big Orange fan," he said. "Daddy had played at Tennessee and I'd committed to go there. I grew up underneath that orange flag. Then one day Coach Bryant called and said, 'We want you to come to Alabama,' and I just melted and forgot everything else. He had a way of compelling you to move in the direction he wanted you to go."

"I have an empty feeling inside," said restaurateur Duffy Boles, who played for Bryant in the mid-1970s. "I just got a letter from Coach Bryant a couple of weeks ago. I'd written him a letter to congratulate him on the Liberty Bowl and to tell him I'd be glad to help Ray Perkins in any way I could. He wrote me right back, like he always did."

"It's a sad day, a really stunning thing. There've been a lot of stunning things in the last year, including his retirement. I think when people look back on it, they'll probably see it as one of his greatest coaching moves — because in his mind, he needed to get out to keep the program going."

Boles said playing for Bryant "was one of the greatest experiences in the world."

"It was tough," said Bill Wieseman, a former high school coach who played for Bryant in the early 1960s. "It was no picnic. It was a job. What made it all worthwhile, though, was the winning — the winning and the association with the players. A bunch of us got together with Coach Bryant a couple of years ago, and like he was telling us, it was like getting together 20 years after a war. Those associations are things you'll carry with you all your life."

"I've had some personal tragedies in my life, and I doubt if I could've gone through them without the lessons I learned from him."

"I wouldn't trade the time I had with him for anything in the world," said banker Phil Chaffin, who played for Bryant from 1968-70. "He not only taught you how to play football but also how to get along in life. He gave you that winning attitude, something that carried over into everyday life."

"He did a lot for me and for every player he ever coached. And he never forgot your name. It was five years after I graduated before I saw him again, and he called my name right off. To me, that was amazing."

# Easterling

## In Tribute



By BILL EASTERLING

In the football season of 1970, people said Bear Bryant had lost his touch and was in the twilight of a fabulous coaching career because his Alabama Crimson Tide had struggled through a second straight mediocre year.

Bryant snorted and steamed, then did what all great men do in times of personal crisis. He rolled up his sleeves, bowed his neck and went hard to work.

Then Bryant unveiled his 1971 team on a warm September night in the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum against the mighty Southern Cal Trojans — the same Trojans who had horsewhipped Bama 42-21 in Birmingham the year before.

This time it was different. Alabama, where great throwers like Joe Namath, Ken Stabler and Steve Sloan had written such flaming football history in the 60s by throwing to great catchers like Ray Perkins and Dennis Homan, lined up that night in a new running offense called the Wishbone.

The Tide let loose a whirling-dervish of a halfback named Johnny Musso and stunned Southern Cal 17-10 in a monumental upset — and Bear Bryant went on from that event to become the winningest coach in college football history, a legend, as they say, in his own time, and one of the most colorful figures the game has ever known.

BUT WHAT I REMEMBER most about that night in 1971 was the way Bear Bryant looked when his friends from the home state press corps trooped in for the post-game conference.

There was a great big smile on his old country-boy face, and he didn't have to say a word. His look said it all.

Paul William "Bear" Bryant.

Yes, he meant it when he said the reason he worked so hard at coaching was because he was always scared he'd have to go back to plowing in Moro Bottom, Ark.

And, yes, he was larger than life, a figure to be loved or hated because he did so well in a simple thing like a game.

Even his enemies respected Coach Bryant, a most unique and unusual circumstance in the dog-eat-dog world of college athletics where jealousy is as common as flies on a watermelon.

THERE ARE MANY folk tales about Bryant the coach — Bear wrestling, court trials, Junction, Tex., firing star players, tactics.

Mix them with the tangibles — 323 wins, six national championships, national coach of the year, 24 consecutive bowl appearances — and it's the stuff legends are made of.

But on this sad day, I prefer to remember him as a man in those moments he shared with sportswriters when the football season was somewhere down the road and none of us were looking for a story.

Bear Bryant was a hard man from August to January. He ran his program with an iron fist and a no-nonsense attitude. He didn't crawl around but would tell a writer that a certain question was nobody's business if he thought it would hurt his program during the season.

In the summer, though, during those quiet times when he hosted the state's sporting press at his annual golf tournament, a person could get to know this complex individual a little better.

I liked what I learned, and if you will let me be a little gushy for a moment, those telephone company commercials you watch on television come pretty close to capturing the real man.

TO MY KNOWLEDGE, Paul Bryant and Ralph Jordan are the only two football coaches I ever interviewed who didn't tell me a lie. I always found it interesting that they competed so hard against each other and yet they liked each other so much.

A lot of maudlin, sentimental thoughts came to mind when I heard about Coach Bryant's death on my car radio yesterday.

But I can't embarrass the man and his memory by gushing and going through this attempt to pay tribute.

He wouldn't have wanted it that way. He would have wanted me to try to put a little class in it, and I tried to keep that in mind Wednesday afternoon when I sat down to write this.

He was a great coach, a credit to his game, and I am most pleased to have been able to share the part of his life that blazed into wild excitement on so many glorious Saturdays in the fall.

God speed, Coach Bryant. We'll never forget you.

## AT&T Profit Set Record

NEW YORK (AP) — American Telephone & Telegraph Co. said today its 1982 profit rose 6.7 percent from a year earlier to a record \$7.38 billion. AT&T said the earnings came to \$8.40 a share, and compared with 1981 profit of \$6.82 billion, or \$8.47 a share, in 1981. The 0.8 percent drop in per-share earnings reflected an increase in the number of common shares outstanding.

Revenue in 1982 climbed 12 percent to \$65.1 billion from \$58.1 billion a year earlier.

At the same time, AT&T's Western Electric Co. subsidiary, which makes telecommunications equipment, announced it will phase out operations at its Kearny, N.J., plant and reduce operations at other facilities, including its Baltimore works and its Hawthorne Plant in Cicero, Ill.

While attrition is expected to absorb some of the lost jobs, "some layoffs are expected" at those facilities, the company said.

## SS Reviews Halted

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Social Security Administration agreed today to temporarily halt reviews of rulings by administrative law judges who claimed they were pressured to deny disability benefit claims.

The agreement was announced to a federal judge shortly before she was to hold a hearing on the administrative judges' allegation.

The administrative judges had sought a preliminary injunction to halt what they called an illegal practice. The judges said in a lawsuit they were subject to a quota system to control the number of rulings in favor of the person seeking benefits.

The Social Security Administration denied in court papers that a quota system exists, but said it does review the judges' work, in part because Congress demanded such action.

The agreement contained three major points:

• The Social Security Administration will temporarily stop reviews of the work of judges who have a high percentage of rulings allowing benefits.

• No judge will be called into a "counseling" session to discuss his rulings.

• No disciplinary proceeding will be instituted as a result of a judge handling too few cases or having a high rate of anti-government rulings.

The agreement said these practices would be suspended until at least Feb. 11, and there would be 10 days' notice before any such actions would resume.

## Fire Erupts In Bomber

GRAND FORKS, N.D. (AP) — Fire broke out today in a B-52 bomber parked in a maintenance hangar at Grand Forks Air Force Base, and spokesmen said 12 people were reported injured or killed.

There was no immediate breakdown of deaths and injuries by base information officials.

The fire was reported at 9:30 a.m., according to Sgt. Erik Tingberg, information officer. Smoke was visible for several miles.

The plane, belonging to the 319th bomb wing, carried no nuclear weapons, according to Defense Department officials.

The cause of the fire was not immediately determined.





(Times Photo by Tony Triolo)

**PAUL 'BEAR' BRYANT**  
1913-1983

**John Pruett**

## Fond Memories Of Coach Bryant

Each summer in his early years as head football coach at the University of Alabama, Paul "Bear" Bryant would entertain a small group of state sportswriters at his cabin near Kowliga Beach on Lake Martin.

Usually he'd pick a weekend in late July or maybe early August when the big bass were churning the weed beds and the sun was beating down white-hot on the thick green fairways of the Willow Point golf course.

We'd fish or play golf by day and go boat riding or skinny dipping or frog-gigging by night. Later, we'd sit in the moonlight in lawn chairs, sipping something cold and swapping yarns and swatting mosquitoes, while Coach Bryant cooked thick T-bones and sirloins on his outdoor grill in the pine thicket.

The year I remember best was 1966. It was the summer after Alabama had won the national championship by beating Nebraska 39-28 in the Orange

# Thanks, Coach

## Bryant's Death Will Leave Void That Can't Be Filled

By **HERSCHEL NISSENSON**  
AP Sports Writer

"A hero who always seemed larger than life"... "Bigger than the game itself"... "A man's man"... "A monumental figure in intercollegiate athletics"... "The best that's ever been"... "The master coach!"

The tributes poured in Wednesday, each seemingly more glowing than the last one, as the stunned world of college football tried to find the proper words to pay tribute to Paul "Bear" Bryant, who died of a massive heart attack at the age of 69, the winningest coach in history.

But in the final analysis, Bryant was simply a football coach. And one after another, his adulators kept coming back to the same phrase — "the greatest football coach of all time."

"When you saw football, you thought of Coach Bryant," said John Cooper, athletic director and head coach at the University of Tulsa.

Almost 50 of "Bear's Boys" — his former players and assistants — became head coaches in the college and pro ranks. The latest was Bruce Arians, who coached the running backs last season and is the new head coach at Temple University.

"I have a hollow, hollow feeling right now knowing Coach is not there," Arians said. "I was looking forward to going back and visiting him and he had made plans to come to our game with Penn State next year. He said he wanted to get around to see as many of his former players and coaches as he could."

College football wouldn't have been quite the same without the Bear prowling the sidelines next fall. Now, he won't even be in the stands.

"It was going to be difficult not seeing him on the sidelines, but his death is going to leave a void in so many places," said Clemson coach Danny Ford, a player and coach under Bryant at Alabama. "He is going to be missed by so many people because he helped so many. That was his main goal in life, to help people. And he reached so many of them. He taught all his players something about life."

"He related football to life, and everybody who was under his teachings had to come out a better person. And when you think about the thousands of players who wore his colors, it's easy to determine that this world is a little bit better because of Coach Bryant."

Charlie McClendon, executive director of the American Football Coaches Association and former coach at LSU, who played under Bryant

at Kentucky, saw him two weeks ago at the AFCA convention in Los Angeles.

"He looked as good and as useful as ever," McClendon said. "I still don't want to believe it."

Yale coach Carmen Cozza also saw Bryant in Los Angeles. "He joked with us that he was going to go fishing," Cozza recalled. "My God, he couldn't even enjoy it."

One of the last people to visit with Bryant was Ray Perkins, his successor as Alabama's head coach.

"I saw him this morning (Wednesday)," Perkins said. "He made the statement to me that he was feeling real good. He looked good. He was sitting up on his bedside having breakfast."

"We talked about why he went to the hospital. Then we talked about recruiting and me leaving on a trip. In fact, I kinda had to run out of the hospital to catch a plane."

"The last thing I remember, he was going to call a young man that we're recruiting for one of our coaches last night (Tuesday) and he didn't get to make that call. He wanted me to tell the coach that he was sorry he didn't get to make that call."

Penn State's Joe Paterno, whose 1982 national champions lost only to Bryant and Alabama, said:

"The death of Paul Bryant is a tremendous shock and difficult to believe. He almost appeared to be indestructible. He was a monumental figure in intercollegiate athletics, a man who set standards not easily attainable by men. He was a giant, and we will miss him."

President Reagan, who telephoned Bryant's widow Wednesday evening to express his condolences, said Bryant "made legends out of ordinary people... He was a hard, but loved, taskmaster. Patriotic to the core, devoted to his players and inspired by a winning spirit that would not quit, Bear Bryant gave his country the gift of a life unsurpassed. In making the impossible seem easy, he lived what we all strive to be."

Richard Williamson, executive director of the Bluebonnet Bowl and a former player and assistant under Bryant, called him "a totally honest, totally dedicated person. He always gave you a totally honest answer, and there's not a lot of people who can give you that these days."

"He was a winner," said former Ohio State coach Woody Hayes, whose team was whipped 35-6 by Alabama in the 1978 Sugar Bowl. "He

Turn to Page B-3



(Times Photo by Rod Whited)

**Coach Paul 'Bear' Bryant Stands in 'His Place'**

**Al Burleson**



after Alabama had won the national championship by beating Nebraska 39-28 in the Orange Bowl.

Charley Thornton, the sports information director, came by our poker table after supper and tapped me on the shoulder.

"You'd better turn in early tonight," he said.

"How come?"

"Coach Bryant says he wants you to be his golf partner tomorrow," said Charley, "and we tee off at nine sharp."

I turned in early, but sleep wouldn't come. I kept thinking, "What if you fan it on the first tee?"

The next morning, Coach Bryant came up to me on the putting green. "OK, partner, I've got us a good match today. You and me against Red Wells and Gary Sanders."

I knew we were in trouble. Red Wells, who was representing the Bluebonnet Bowl, was a three-handicapper. I'd seen him play the day before and he hit a one-iron like he invented it. Gary Sanders, the Auburn announcer, had tuned up the day before with a 76, which was about nine shots better than me and about a dozen shots better than Coach Bryant.

"Coach, how much are they spotting us?" I asked.

Bryant turned on me with those falcon eyes. "Spot, hell!" he said. "We're not spotting anybody."

Somehow, I managed not to fan it on the first tee, and somehow we managed to finish 18 holes in a flat tie. I was entirely satisfied. But Coach Bryant wasn't. A tie is like kissing your sister, isn't it?

"Tell you what, partner," he said. "We're going to play 'em three more holes — and we're playing for \$50 a hole."

I almost fainted.

While Coach Bryant was pulling out his driver, I eased over to Gary Sanders with a proposal. "Look, Gary, I don't have but \$8 to get back to Huntsville on," I said. "Don't say anything, but let's let him and Red play for \$50 a hole and you and I will play for 50 cents a hole." Sanders looked relieved. "Deal," he said.

A few minutes later, I could've kicked myself all the way back to Huntsville. Coach Bryant birdied the first hole, I birdied the second, he birdied the third and we whipped those suckers three-up. Red Wells promptly shelled out \$150 to Coach Bryant. Then while they were looking the other way, Gary Sanders slipped me \$1.50...

\* \* \* \* \*

Dec. 21, 1982.

I stood in Bear Bryant's office on the second floor of Memorial Coliseum, trying to think of something to say. A week earlier, he had stunned all of college football — and all of us in this state — by announcing his retirement.

Turn to Page B-3

**Al Burleson**

## Coach Bryant's Finale Left Mixed Emotions

The Mississippi River loomed large down below and the late December wind made a low moaning sound outside the expanse of glass of the penthouse suite.

Otherwise, there was intermittent silence except for the familiar deep, rumbling voice.

Paul "Bear" Bryant talked as candidly in two hours as I ever heard him before a gathering of newspapermen.

He laughed from time to time as he reminisced and talked about such things as how tough it used to be to get from Memphis to Fordyce, Ark. He also revealed that he would leave as athletic director before next football season.

Present were his bodyguard-companion Billy Varner, Crimson Tide assistant athletic director Jack Perry, and eight sportswriters.

It was Bryant's private farewell meeting with Alabama sportswriters as head football coach. He was to end his career that night with his 323rd



BURLESON

football coaching victory.

Asked what he intended to do with his time now that his coaching days were over and his day as athletic director numbered, Bryant said, "Try to do what I want to do. If I want to go fishing, I'll go fishing. If I want to go to Arkansas to visit kinfolks, I'll do that, too."

While giving this answer, he stared vacantly beyond the glass at the Mississippi, like he was having trouble visualizing it in his mind.

It impressed me then that Coach Bryant may have had a premonition he might not be around long enough to do those things, that he might never again have to know what it meant to be away from football.

During his last formal press conference before the game, with media members from all over the country present, someone asked him if he had his life to live over if he would do anything different. Bryant answered, "Yeah. I would try to be a better Christian."

\*\*\*\*\*

As much as any football player who was to play for him, I was scared and awed the first time I met him. And I wasn't exactly a fresh-faced high

school kid. I had been out of college and in journalism in some capacity for more than 10 years. Yet, my knees were shaky and my palms sweaty the first time I was assigned to interview Bryant.

When he closed the door behind us in his big red furnished office on the top floor of Memorial Coliseum and we were alone, I was plenty nervous.

He asked if I wanted coffee and I said yes. I couldn't believe it when Coach Bryant went across the hall himself and brought me coffee.

Even though I had prepared my questions, I know they came out awkward the way I asked them.

Bryant lit up a Chesterfield and leaned back in his chair. He would listen to one of my questions and stare at me like I had just asked the all-time dumb one he had ever heard. He would answer, but would pause so long in between that every time I would think that I had finally done it — asked one so stupid that he wasn't going to dignify it with an answer. During the pauses, he would be spitting flecks of tobacco off his tongue

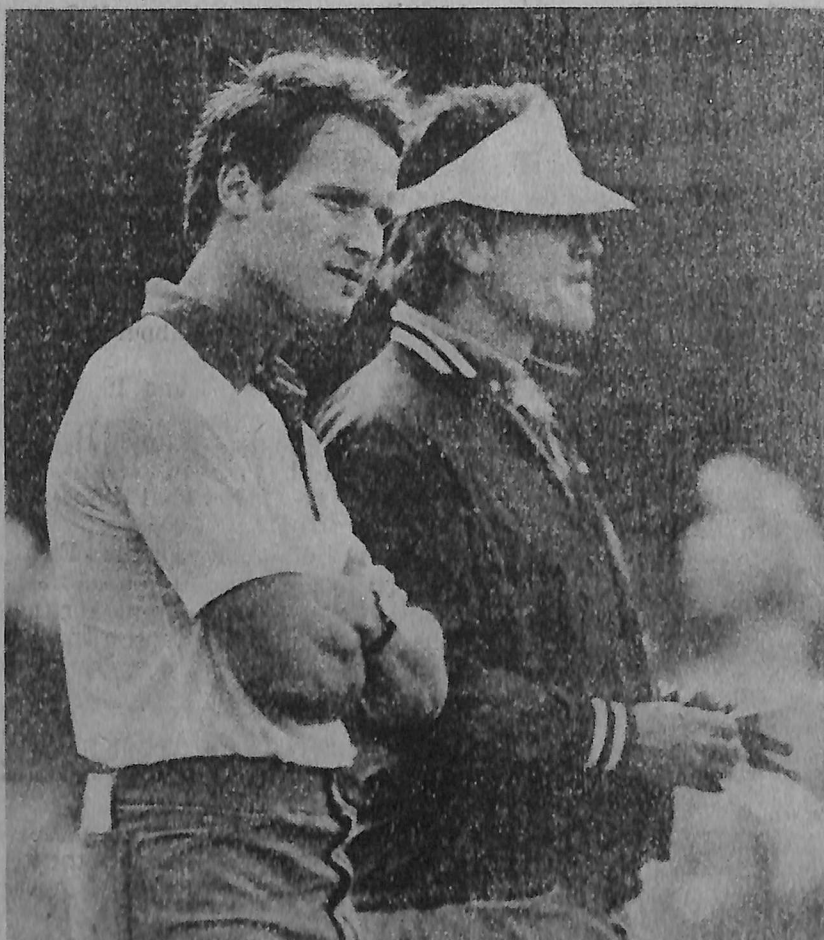
Turn to Page B-3



Alabama's Late Head Coach, Paul 'Bear' Bryant, Always Kept a Close Eye on His Players on and off the Field

(Times Photo by Rod Whited)





(AP Laserphoto)

Don Shula (R) Coaches With His Son David

## Auburn Visits LSU

Charles Barkley  
On a Hot StreakBy AL BURLESON  
Assistant Sports Editor

Charles Barkley is on a hot streak right now, and that's good news for Auburn Coach Sonny Smith.

Smith needs plenty of good news going into Baton Rouge Saturday with his team to play LSU.

Smith remembers how it was last year in Baton Rouge.

Guard Derrick Taylor hit a desperation shot from center court at the buzzer to give LSU a 69-68 victory.

Recalling last year, Smith said Wednesday he can still see Taylor dribbling around Auburn guard

The 'Garden'  
Tough Place

Two of the nation's Top Ten college basketball teams visited New York and learned that it's not always Fun City.

Fifth-ranked Memphis State and No. 8 Louisville had to fight for their lives before coming away with hard-earned victories over Iona and Rutgers Wednesday night in a Madison Square Garden doubleheader.

Paul Daniels and putting the shot up at half-court. He also recalls the sinking feeling he had when it dropped through the net.

"We played a real good ballgame and came up on the short end," said Smith, who added that he expects it to be tough again in Baton Rouge.

"They've lost their last two games on the road and that'll make them play harder," said Smith. "It's a tough place to play. The crowd is hostile and they do a good job for the team. They (LSU) are 6-1 at home this year and lost by only a point to Tennessee."

Barkley is probably the key to whether Auburn can come out of the meeting with a victory.

Auburn beat LSU 82-72 in a rematch at Auburn. Barkley had good games in both of them as a freshman. Right now, he's shooting phenomenally and taking charge again on the boards.

In Auburn's last three games, the 6-6, 272-pound sophomore has made 31 of 34 field goal attempts.

He scored a career-high 35 points and pulled down 13 rebounds in Auburn's 80-77 home loss to Tennessee. The only flaw in his performance was missing six of 15 free throws.

But Smith was pleased with Barkley.

Shula, Gibbs Promise Excitement  
*Super Bowl to Be Wide Open*By HAL BOCK  
AP Sports Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The charge: Conservative, boring football.

The defendant: Don Shula, coach of the Miami Dolphins.

The plea: Guilty.

Shula admits he was one of those coaches less concerned with winning than he was with not losing in some of his four previous Super Bowl trips.

But times and coaches change, and he promises that Sunday's Super Bowl XVII against the Washington Redskins will be anything but dull.

"In the past, teams have gone out afraid to lose," Shula said. "So you had cautious games. But I think we've seen a turnaround in the last few years, and more teams are doing the things that got them there. The Cowboys and Steelers played a pretty wide open game a couple of years ago."

And that, said the Dolphins' boss, is what he plans to do, too.

"I think you have to go for it. We've opened up our offense in the last few weeks and we've played aggressively defensively. In this game, I think we've got to go the same way. You can't be afraid. You've got to do what got you here."

Joe Gibbs, who'll be across the field at the Rose Bowl on Sunday directing the Redskins, agreed.

"I don't think you can finesse people to win a Super Bowl," he said. "You've got to be physical. Our approach is to be aggressive on offense and aggressive on defense. We're not going to sit back there, waiting for something to happen. We want to make it happen."

Shula, preparing for his fifth Super Bowl, and Gibbs, in his first, both seemed relaxed as they moved toward Sunday's confrontation.

"I've learned to live with things a lot better now than in my early years," the Miami coach said. "I've mellowed. I'm not as quick to fly off the handle."

Gibbs' Redskins are talented with the best record in the league, 11-1. "And they're smart," the coach added. "I said to them at halftime last week, 'Think of this. You're a half

away from \$16,000.' They screamed \$18,000."

Gibbs sees a lot of the elements of past Super Bowl winners in his team.

"History paints a sketch of what world champions are like," he said. "First is a good aggressive, tough defense that went after people. An offense that is very consistent, with strong running backs who don't fumble. A quarterback who is hot. You've got to be physical and have great special teams to win."

But even Gibbs must admit that the Redskins are rather unique with offensive linemen who call themselves Hogs, pint-sized pass catchers called Smurfs after the television cartoon characters, and a fullback who rarely talks, even to the coach. No other Super Bowl teams offered that strange combination.

Two of the Hogs, guard Russ Grimm and tackle Joe Jacoby, room together. Grimm is 6-foot-3, 273. He looks like a miniature standing next to Jacoby who, at 6-7, 290, resembles an airplane hanger.

"He cooks breakfast," said Grimm, nodding at his roommate. "I've seen him make steaks and eggs. Three steaks."

How about bread?

"He doesn't eat bread," said Grimm. "He says bread is fattening."

Grimm says the hogs are down-to-earth sorts, more comfortable in a t-shirt and jeans

## Chuck Knox New Seattle Coach

SEATTLE (AP) — Chuck Knox, who had problems with his owners in Los Angeles and Buffalo despite winning six division titles in 10 seasons, has resurfaced as head coach of the Seattle Seahawks.

Knox, 50, became the third head coach in the National Football League club's seven-year history Wednesday, just one day after resigning in Buffalo.

"Nobody in this business is a miracle worker," Knox stressed. "We have not set any timetable to win this or win that. But we will be competitive."

Knox takes command of a team yet to the NFL playoffs. His 91-51-1 record, a .636 winning percentage is third among active coaches behind only Miami's Don Shula, .710, and San Diego's Don Coryell, .640.

than a three-piece suit.

"A three-piece suit?," exclaimed Jacoby. "I don't own one of them."

The hogs like to dine together. "We went to a restaurant in Washington one night," said Grimm. "Seven of us. The bill was \$850 and that was without liquor."

You get the picture.

Fullback John Riggins, who has rushed for 444 yards in three playoff games, is an honorary Hog. He was in acceptable uniform for Wednesday's interview sessions, wearing camouflage pants, tan work boots and a purple t-shirt labeled "Five O'Clock Club" on the sleeves and chest. He has resumed limited relations with the press after a long silence and explained his reasoning.

"A couple of years ago, I didn't play for one season. Football wasn't fun, so I took a year off. Doing interviews wasn't fun, so I took a year off from that, too."

Working beside the hogs are the Smurfs, Washington's corps of tiny pass receivers. They include Charlie Brown (5-10, 179), Alvin Garrett (5-7, 178) and Virgil Seay (5-8, 175).

They are dwarfed by the hogs, but that's OK with them. "I like being 5-7," said Garrett. "You ought to try it some time."

And while the hogs stuff their faces, the Smurfs have their own recreational interests every week, and the Super Bowl won't disrupt them.

Says Seay: "I'll be watching, 8:30 Saturday morning" when the Smurfs come on the tube.

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doubleheader. First, Memphis State held off Iona 94-88 behind Keith Lee's 28 points, including a pair of free throws with three seconds left when Iona called a timeout although it had none remaining and was hit with a bench technical.

Then, Louisville froze the ball for more than seven minutes late in the game and nosed out Rutgers 54-49 for its eighth consecutive triumph.

In other games involving The Associated Press Top Twenty, second-ranked Indiana outlasted Northwestern 78-73, No. 6 Virginia trounced George Washington 59-44, ninth-ranked Houston clobbered Rice 76-40, No. 12 Arkansas nipped Texas Tech 62-59, No. 13 Missouri defeated Kansas 76-63 and No. 15 Georgetown crushed Seton Hall 71-48.

#### Top Ten

Memphis State, 15-1, took advantage of foul problems by Iona's top two scorers — Steve Burtt had 31 points and Gary Springer added 15 — to move from a 61-59 lead to 70-61. Lee and Bobby Parks, who finished with 21 points, each scored four for the Tigers during that span.

Memphis State's first 15 opponents had averaged only 61.4 points a game and Coach Dana Kirk called Iona "the first team we've had this year we couldn't contain offensively."

In the nightcap, Louisville Coach Dermy Crum said he thought it was obvious why he ordered the Cardinals to freeze the ball with a 51-49 lead and more than eight minutes left.

"We shot 37 percent in the first half, and I doubt it was that good in the second half," he said. "When you play against a zone, you don't get any easy shots. We were shooting to begin with, but they obviously didn't want to come out and play us."

Barkley.

"That's a real good example of what he can do with a lot of minutes," said the Auburn coach. "He probably played more in that game...37 minutes...than he has played since he's been at Auburn. He's corrected the two things he needed to correct — one, his minutes of play, and, two, he's posting up better."

"Everything about Charles has picked up. He is making less fouls and is more in control of himself. He's posting up better and playing more minutes. He has not been making the foolish fouls he was making earlier. All he has needed to dominate in games is more playing minutes. I've been really pleased with what he has been doing for us lately."

If Barkley continues his current pace in shooting, he will shatter the school's season field goal percentage record. After 12 games, Barkley was shooting 62.2 percent from the field, better than the record of 60.6 set by center Joe Newton in 1965. In the last three games, Barkley has upped his percentage to 67.8.

Auburn will enter Saturday's game (tipoff 7:30 p.m.) with a 11-5 overall record and 4-3 SEC slate. LSU is 11-8 and 2-5 in the conference.

Smith is most concerned about stopping LSU's superlative guard, Howard Carter.

"He presents real problems for us," said Smith of the muscular 6-5 senior. "He can shoot so well outside. We put a small man on him and he stays outside. If we put a big man on him, he takes it inside."

Smith said 6-7 forward Leonard Mitchell also gives Auburn something to think about.

"Mitchell has been tough for us. He has the ability to play above the basket and that always represents a problem for us."

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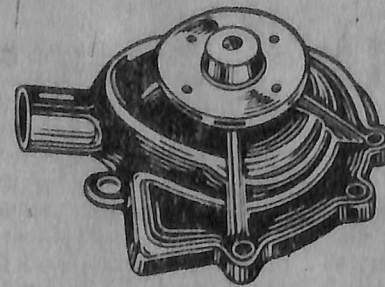


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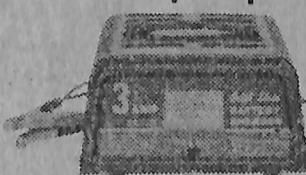
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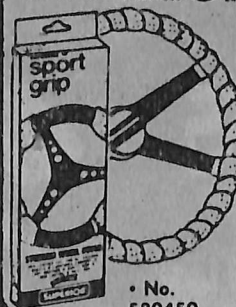


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# John Pruett

Continued From Page B-1

Now I was struggling to find a way to say thanks for the memories.

"Coach, remember that time you beat Red Wells out of all that money at Willow Point?" He grinned. "Yeah, I remember that. Ol' Red didn't know what hit him."

"Coach, I've enjoyed knowing you and writing about you," I said.

He frowned and mumbled, "You make it sound like I've croaked or something."

We both laughed about that, and I said he'd probably have his golf handicap down to about five before the end of the summer. But he shook his head. "Who knows," he said, "what'll happen before the end of the summer."

Later that day, he came down from the tower at Thomas Field for the last time. The team was ready to break for Christmas. They wouldn't practice again until they met in Memphis for the Liberty Bowl. After practice, he walked off the field at a snail's pace, but he never looked back. Not once.

\* \* \* \* \*

Dec. 29, 1982.

A few hours before the Alabama-Illinois game, Paul Bryant met with a handful of Alabama sportswriters in his hotel room at the Rivermont in Memphis.

It was relaxed and informal. Coach Bryant munched on cheese and crackers and sipped on a tall glass of milk. As we sat there, laughing and taking notes, for some reason I thought of those long-ago days at Lake Martin. I don't know why.

He spoke of many things in Memphis — his plans for retirement, his disappointments in 1982, his expectations for Alabama football in the years to come. Jack Perry, the sports information director, took a "team picture" of the coach and the writers. Finally, everybody got up to leave. Coach Bryant wanted to rest before the pre-game meal.

He shook each of our hands in turn. "Well, thanks for coming, gentlemen," he said. "I wonder where you'll all be this time next year. I wonder where I'll be."

That night, Alabama beat Illinois 21-15. It was Paul Bryant's 323rd victory, and his players carried him off the field on their shoulders. In the south end zone, the Million Dollar Band played the alma mater, and many grown men cried without shame.

Paul Bryant went home to Tuscaloosa the next day. His coaching career — the greatest in college football history — was over. Then just 28 days later, he died.

Somehow, it doesn't seem possible.

## Al Burleson

Continued From Page B-1

from the Chesterfield.

When I ran out of the questions in my notebook, I couldn't think of anything else to ask him or talk about. I mumbled something about not wanting to take up any more of his time, thanked him and left.

Outside, I looked at my watch and found that I had been in his office all of 10 minutes.

\*\*\*\*\*

Standing near the end zone of Liberty Bowl Stadium the night of Dec. 29, with Illinois quarterback Tony Eason moving his team in for what could be the winning touchdown over Alabama, it struck me how horrible it would be for Coach Bryant to lose his last game — the winningest coach in collegiate history to go out with a four-game losing streak!

Then fate ... or something higher ... intervened. The Alabama defense, as it had not done most of the season in such situations, rose up and was brilliant in stopping Illinois' last drive.

My impression after it was over and Coach Bryant carried onto the field by his players for the last time, was that not even Illinois coach Mike White was unhappy the way it turned out.

The last time I saw Coach Bryant was several minutes after the game when the press was admitted to the Alabama dressing room. He was sitting on a table still accepting congratulations from some of his former players. He looked old and tired and there was undeniable moisture around his eyes. I shook his hand and congratulated him. It was an unbelievably happy ... and sad time. One that will stay with me always.

## Score Board

Three-point goals—Higgins, Lacey, Free. Fouled out—None. Rebounds—Chicago 38 (Corzine 9), Cleveland 33 (Robinson 7). Assists—Chicago 29 (Lester 6), Cleveland 28 (Robinson 5, Wilkerson 5). Total fouls—Chicago 20, Cleveland 32. A—2,265.

At Pontiac, Mich.  
SEATTLE (118)  
Shelton 6-11 0-3 12, Vranes 5-8 5-6 15, Sikma 10-19 6-10 26, Smith 2-4 3-6 7, Williams 11-24 4-5 26, Thompson 2-4 3-5 7, Donaldson 5-12 7-10 17, Keiser 0-0 0-0 0, Brown 3-7 0-0 6, Tolbert 0-0 0-0 0, Radford 1-30 0-2. Totals 45-95 28-45 118.  
DETROIT (109)  
Benson 7-11 2-3 16, Tripucka 7-19 0-1 14, Laimbeer 4-10 1-1 9, Long 4-14 2-2 10, Thomas 9-23 9-14 27, Owens 0-1 0-0 0, Tyler 2-4 1-5, Johnson 7-13 5-5 19, Jones 1-4 3-4 5, Russell 0-1 4-4 4. Totals 41-100 27-35 109.  
Seattle 33 27 30 28—118  
Detroit 25 29 32 23—109  
Three-point goals—None. Fouled out—Laimbeer. Rebounds—Seattle 58 (Sikma 10), Detroit 48 (Benson 12). Assists—Seattle 27 (Sikma 8), Detroit 23 (Thomas 8). Total fouls—Seattle 32, Detroit 30. Technicals—Tripucka, A—10, 184.

At Kansas City, Mo.  
DALLAS (125)  
Aguirre 14-27 7-9 35, Vincent 9-12 10-11 28, Cummings 5-8 0-4 10, Ransey 10-18 8-10 28, Blackman 3-8 3-3 9, Spanarkel 1-5 4-6 6, Garnett 2-2 1-2 5, Nimphius 1-4 0-0 2, C. Thompson 0-1 2-2 2, Bristow 0-10 0-0. Totals 45-86 35-47 125.

KANSAS CITY (115)  
E. Johnson 5-11 2-2 12, Nealy 2-3 2-3 6, Meriweather 1-2 0-1 2, Drew 7-23 6-8 20, Williams 7-16 4-6 19, Loder 7-13 3-6 17, S. Johnson 2-5 4-7 8, R. Johnson 0-1 1-2 1, Woodson 8-20 3-5 20, L. Thompson 2-4 2-4 6, Steppe 2-40 0-4. Totals 43-102 27-44 115.  
Dallas 36 24 34 31—125  
Kansas City 30 26 28 31—115  
Three-point goals—Williams, Woodson. Fouled out—Aguirre, Drew, Williams. Rebounds—Dallas 51 (Aguirre 11), Kansas City 50 (Loder 9). Assists—Dallas 17 (Ransey 7), Kansas City 25 (Williams 8). Total fouls—Dallas 35, Kansas City 39. Technicals—Kansas City Coach Fitzsimmons, Nimphius, Dallas Coach Moffa 2. A—5, 156.

At Inglewood, Calif.  
MILWAUKEE (113)  
M. Johnson 13-26 4-5 30, Catchings 0-1 0-0 0, Cowens 4-9 2-2 10, Ford 0-2 0-0 0, Moncrief 3-8 4-4 10, Lister 2-5 3-4 7, Bridgman 8-14 0-0 16, Pressey 3-6 0-0 6, Lenier 2-40 0-4, Criss 10-17 0-1 20, Moskeski 1-10 0-2, Mix 3-3 2-8, Totals 49-96 15-18 113.  
LOS ANGELES (115)  
Rambis 2-6 4-4 8, Wilkes 12-21 2-4 26, Abdul Jabbar 12-18 5-9 29, Johnson, E. 4-11 1-4 9, Nixon 5-10 1-2 11, Copper 4-5 3-3 11, Worthy 1-5 0-0 2, McAdoo 8-11 3-5 19. Totals 48-87 19-31 115.

Milwaukee 20 34 31 28—113  
Los Angeles 30 30 31 24—115  
Three-point goals—None. Fouled out—None. Rebounds—Milwaukee 42 (M. Johnson 10), Los Angeles 43 (E. Johnson 12). Assists—Milwaukee 34 (Criss 7), Los Angeles 35 (E. Johnson 20). Total fouls—Milwaukee 27, Los Angeles 22. Technicals—Cowens, Los Angeles, illegal defense. A—17, 505.

At Philadelphia, Pa.  
PHOENIX (102)  
Lucas 4-13 4-4 12, Nance 5-13 4-4 14, Adams 5-12 5-6 15, Davis 14-24 2-2 30, Johnson 7-12 1-4 15, Scott 1-2 1-2 3, Cooke 3-6 1-2 7, White 0-2 0-0 0, High 0-0 0-0 0, Macy 2-3 1-2 6. Totals 41-87 19-26 102.

PHILADELPHIA (113)  
Erving 10-26 6-7 26, Iavaroni 0-1 0-0 0, Malone 14-19 6-10 34, Cheeks 2-3 0-0 4, Toney 8-15 2-3 18, Jones 6-8 3-4 15, Cureton 0-2 0-0 0, Richardson 5-8 4-4 14. Totals 46-84 21-30 113.  
Phoenix 34 24 25 19—102  
Philadelphia 40 26 13 34—113  
Three-point goals—Macy. Rebounds—Phoenix 42 (Nance 9), Philadelphia 42 (Malone 11). Assists—Phoenix 27 (Adams 11), Philadelphia 28 (Toney 12). Total fouls—Phoenix 24, Philadelphia 25. Technicals—Phoenix, illegal defense, 2; Philadelphia, illegal defense. A—14, 126.

At Boston.  
WASHINGTON (99)  
Haywood 6-13 1-2 13, Ballard 5-13 2-12, Mahorn 4-15 1-1 9, Johnson 6-14 2-6 15, Davis 4-11 2-4 10, Ruland 3-11 2-4 8, Warrick 2-3 1-1 5, Grevey 3-6 1-3 7, Terry 4-6 0-0 8, Sobers 4-10 4-4 12, Batton 0-1 0-0 0. Totals 41-103 16-27 99.  
BOSTON (125)  
McHale 9-13 3-4 21, Bird 6-11 5-8 17, Parish 6-14 0-0 12, Buckner 6-13 4-6 16, Ainge 5-8 2-3 12, Archibald 4-8 2-3 10, Carr 6-9 0-0 12, Henderson 5-8 0-1 10, Wedman 4-5 0-0 8, Bradley 3-5 1-4 7. Totals 54-94 17-29 125.  
Washington 24 23 22 30—99  
Boston 34 29 29 33—125  
Three-point goals—Johnson. Fouled out—Wedman. Rebounds—Washington 61 (Ruland 11), Boston 64 (McHale 13, Parish 12). Assists—Washington 25 (Johnson 13), Boston 32 (Archibald 8). Total fouls—Washington 27 Boston 28. Technicals—Washington delay of game. A—15, 320.

At Richfield, Ohio  
CHICAGO (124)  
Higgins 7-10 0-1 15, Greenwood 3-7 2-3 8, Corzine 7-15 7-10 21, Theus 10-17 7-8 27, Bradley 4-6 1-2 9, Woolridge 3-3 3-3 9, Dailey 4-7 4-6 12, Jackson 6-10 5-8 17, Lester 1-5 0-0 2, Oliberding 1-1 0-0 2, Jones 1-1 0-0 2. Totals 47-82 29-41 124.  
CLEVELAND (119)  
Robinson 4-10 1-2 9, Hubbard 2-7 1-1 5, Lacey 3-5 2-2 9, Huston 12-18 7-7 31, Free 11-18 7-8 30, Hayes 1-2 0-0 2, Kenon 8-12 0-0 16, Wilkerson 1-5 2-2 4, Flowers 4-4 0-0 8, Bagley 1-2 1-2 3, Tillis 1-3 0-0 2. Totals 48-86 21-24 119.  
Chicago 32 32 26 34—124  
Cleveland 28 25 29 37—119

Montreal at New York Rangers, 7:35 p.m.  
Winnipeg at Philadelphia, 7:35 p.m.  
St. Louis at Minnesota, 8:35 p.m.  
Toronto at Calgary, 9:35 p.m.  
New York Islanders at Los Angeles, 10:35 p.m.

## College Scores

Wednesday's College Basketball Scores  
By The Associated Press

EAST  
Bucknell 61, Lafayette 59  
Buffalo 76, Roberts Wesleyan 47  
Fordham 87, Yale 69  
LaSalle 78, Hofstra 62  
Louisville 54, Rutgers 49  
Maryland 55, Holy Cross 53  
Memphis St. 94, Iona 88  
New Hampshire 70, Vermont 57  
Penn St. 87, Temple 79  
Providence 65, Connecticut 62  
Robert Morris 100, St. Francis, Pa. 75  
St. Bonaventure 102, Niagara 85  
St. Joseph's, Pa. 98, Massachusetts 86  
Wagner 68, Army 66  
Widener 73, Haverford 68

SOUTH  
Alcorn St. 116, S. Carolina St. 82  
Athens St. 68, Troy St. 66, OT  
Baltimore 78, Towson St. 72  
Davidson 57, Citadel 52  
Furman 53, Appalachian St. 45  
Georgetown, DC 71, Seton Hall 48  
Georgia Tech 88, Francis Marion 76  
James Madison 73, Navy 63  
King's, Pa. 77, Emory & Henry 64  
LaGrange 65, Ga. Southwestern 55  
Livingston 78, Birm. Southern 72  
New Orleans 91, S. Mississippi 74  
N. Carolina A&T 69, Winston-Salem St. 68

N. Carolina St. 94, Duke 79  
Old Dominion 69, Jacksonville 64  
Randolph-Macon 79, Mt. St. Mary's 69  
Tennessee St. 100, Clark 89  
Virginia 59, Geo. Washington 44  
William & Mary 76, Richmond 68

MIDWEST  
Ball St. 58, N. Illinois 48  
Bowling Green 63, W. Michigan 48  
Cincinnati 73, Xavier, Ohio 58  
DePaul 51, Princeton 41  
Indiana 78, Northwestern 73  
Ind. St. Evansville 81, Transylvania 76  
Iowa St. 82, Colorado 78  
Miami, Ohio 71, E. Michigan 67  
Millikin 82, Quincy 66  
Miss. Valley 64, SW Missouri 59  
Missouri 76, Kansas 63  
Nebraska 59, Kansas St. 43  
Ohio 77, Cent. Michigan 72  
SW Minnesota 92, Moorhead St. 91  
Toledo 98, Kent St. 61  
Westminster 86, Columbia Col. 58  
Wright St. 69, N. Kentucky 63

SOUTHWEST  
Arkansas 62, Texas Tech 59  
Baylor 76, Texas 43  
Houston 76, Rice 40

FAR WEST  
Cent. Washington 108, Lewis-Clark St. 78  
Hawaii-Hilo 104, Col. of Notre Dame 74

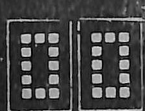
## Top 20

How The AP Top Twenty Fared  
Here's how the Top Twenty teams in the Associated Press college basketball poll fared Wednesday:

1. UCLA (13-1) did not play.  
2. Indiana (15-1) beat Northwestern 78-73.  
3. North Carolina (15-3) did not play.  
4. Nevada-Las Vegas (17-0) did not play.  
5. Memphis State (15-1) beat Iona 94-88.  
6. Virginia (16-2) beat George Washington 59-44.  
7. St. John's (17-1) did not play.  
8. Louisville (16-2) beat Rutgers 54-49.  
9. Houston (16-2) beat Rice 76-40.  
10. Kentucky (13-3) did not play.  
11. Villanova (12-3) did not play.  
12. Arkansas (16-1) beat Texas Tech 62-59.  
13. Missouri (15-3) beat Kansas 76-63.  
14. Iowa (12-3) did not play.  
15. Georgetown (14-4) beat Seton Hall 71-48.  
16. Minnesota (12-3) did not play.  
17. Illinois State (14-1) did not play.  
18. Syracuse (13-3) did not play.  
19. Wake Forest (13-2) did not play.  
20. Oklahoma State (13-2) did not play.

## Registration

Registration is underway for Men's and Powder-Puff slow-pitch softball leagues by the Huntsville Department of Park and Recreation. Fees are \$300 for ladies and



National Basketball Association  
At A Glance  
By The Associated Press  
All Times EST  
EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division	W	L	Pct.	GB
Philadelphia	36	6	.857	—
Boston	32	10	.762	4
New Jersey	27	16	.628	9 1/2
Washington	18	24	.429	18
New York	16	26	.381	20

Central Division	W	L	Pct.	GB
Milwaukee	30	15	.667	—
Atlanta	21	21	.500	7 1/2
Detroit	22	22	.500	7 1/2
Chicago	15	28	.349	14
Indiana	13	28	.317	15
Cleveland	7	35	.167	21 1/2

WESTERN CONFERENCE	W	L	Pct.	GB
Midwest Division				
San Antonio	27	18	.600	—
Kansas City	23	19	.548	2 1/2
Dallas	20	22	.476	5 1/2
Denver	21	24	.467	6
Utah	18	27	.400	9
Houston	7	35	.167	18 1/2

Pacific Division	W	L	Pct.	GB
Los Angeles	33	8	.805	—
Portland	27	17	.605	8
Phoenix	27	18	.600	8
Seattle	25	18	.581	9
Golden State	18	25	.419	16
San Diego	12	32	.273	22 1/2

Wednesday's Games  
Boston 125, Washington 99  
Philadelphia 113, Phoenix 102  
Chicago 124, Cleveland 119  
Seattle 118, Detroit 109  
Dallas 125, Kansas City 115  
Los Angeles 115, Milwaukee 113  
Thursday's Games  
San Antonio at Indiana, 7:35 p.m.  
Seattle at Washington, 8:10 p.m.  
Golden State at Houston, 9:05 p.m.  
Utah at Portland, 10:30 p.m.  
Atlanta at San Diego, 10:30 p.m.



Wednesday's NBA Boxes  
By The Associated Press

At Philadelphia  
PHOENIX (102)  
Lucas 4-13 4-4 12, Nance 5-13 4-4 14, Adams 5-12 5-6 15, Davis 14-24 2-2 30, Johnson 7-12 1-4 15, Scott 1-2 1-2 3, Cooke 3-6 1-2 7, White 0-2 0-0 0, High 0-0 0-0 0, Macy 2-3 1-2 6. Totals 41-87 19-26 102.  
PHILADELPHIA (113)  
Erving 10-26 6-7 26, Iavaroni 0-1 0-0 0, Malone 14-19 6-10 34, Cheeks 2-3 0-0 4, Toney 8-15 2-3 18, Jones 6-8 3-4 15, Cureton 0-2 0-0 0, Richardson 5-8 4-4 14. Totals 46-84 21-30 113.  
Phoenix 34 24 25 19—102  
Philadelphia 40 26 13 34—113  
Three-point goals—Macy. Rebounds—Phoenix 42 (Nance 9), Philadelphia 42 (Malone 11). Assists—Phoenix 27 (Adams 11), Philadelphia 28 (Toney 12). Total fouls—Phoenix 24, Philadelphia 25. Technicals—Phoenix, illegal defense, 2; Philadelphia, illegal defense. A—14, 126.

At Boston.  
WASHINGTON (99)  
Haywood 6-13 1-2 13, Ballard 5-13 2-12, Mahorn 4-15 1-1 9, Johnson 6-14 2-6 15, Davis 4-11 2-4 10, Ruland 3-11 2-4 8, Warrick 2-3 1-1 5, Grevey 3-6 1-3 7, Terry 4-6 0-0 8, Sobers 4-10 4-4 12, Batton 0-1 0-0 0. Totals 41-103 16-27 99.  
BOSTON (125)  
McHale 9-13 3-4 21, Bird 6-11 5-8 17, Parish 6-14 0-0 12, Buckner 6-13 4-6 16, Ainge 5-8 2-3 12, Archibald 4-8 2-3 10, Carr 6-9 0-0 12, Henderson 5-8 0-1 10, Wedman 4-5 0-0 8, Bradley 3-5 1-4 7. Totals 54-94 17-29 125.  
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At Richfield, Ohio  
CHICAGO (124)  
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Chicago 32 32 26 34—124  
Cleveland 28 25 29 37—119

At Philadelphia, Pa.  
PHOENIX (102)  
Lucas 4-13 4-4 12, Nance 5-13 4-4 14, Adams 5-12 5-6 15, Davis 14-24 2-2 30, Johnson 7-12 1-4 15, Scott 1-2 1-2 3, Cooke 3-6 1-2 7, White 0-2 0-0 0, High 0-0 0-0 0, Macy 2-3 1-2 6. Totals 41-87 19-26 102.



# Bear's Death Leaves Void

Continued From Page B-1

was honorable, and he won with good, clean ballclubs."

Pat Dye, head coach at Auburn University, Alabama's bitter intrastate rival, spent nine years as an assistant under Bryant. "He was like all great people who have come through American history," Dye said. "Though he may be gone, his teaching will last forever in the lives of those he touched."

Jones Ramsey, sports information at the University of Texas who held that position at Texas A&M when Bryant coached there and whose son, Paul, was named after Bryant, said that "what his kids thought of him as a person meant more to him than winning, and that's what they'll remember him for."

Steve Sloan, the new head coach at Duke and once rumored to be the leading candidate to succeed Bryant, called his old coach "a godfather-type person for everybody in coaching. Last month, I spent a night there in his house. We watched one of the pro games and he was in excellent health. He was feeling good, and the only worry he had at that time was whether to retire or whether to coach."

"The thing that I'm of course saddest about was that he was looking forward to having some time on his own to hunt and fish and play golf. I remember last time I saw him that's what he remarked to me, that he just wanted to spend some time doing things that he wanted to enjoy."

"He was more than just a football coach, more than just a friend," said Charley Thornton, a member of Alabama's athletic department for 18 years until he became assistant athletic director at Texas A&M last winter. "I think the nation lost a legend in the same mold as John Wayne or George Patton. He taught living, and how to handle moments like this. Anybody can get by when things are

Athens State . . . . . 68

Troy State . . . . . 66

TROY — Athens State College rebounded strongly from last Saturday night's loss at home to Alabama-Huntsville by defeating Gulf South Conference leader Troy State 68-66 in overtime here Wednesday night.

The Bears, currently ranked No. 20 nationally in the NAIA, got the winning points on Michael Moore's layup with seven seconds to go in the extra period. Athens State had tied the game at 66 on Bobby Coar's slam dunk.

It looked like Athens State might win the game in regulation when it came back from a seven-point deficit to take a 58-57 lead with 12 seconds to go. But Trojan Rocky Arceneaux hit a free throw with no time left to send the game into overtime.

The Bears trailed for much of the game, including the halftime score of 27-23.

Coar paced the Bears with 29 points and 10 rebounds, followed by reserve guard Freddy Benford with 11 points. Arceneaux led Troy State with 15 points and Marvin Madison contributed 14 points and 10 rebounds.

Athens State (14-3) will host Stillman College Saturday night at 7:30.

going good, but he taught you how to reach down and get that little something extra. He took an awful lot of us when we were still children and made men out of us."

It was after a 20-10 loss to LSU last November that Bryant first talked publicly about retiring. LSU coach Jerry Stovall said Bryant "influenced more young men as players and coaches than any man who ever touched the game. We have all suffered a great loss in his death, but we were blessed for 69 years with his presence."

Florida coach Charley Pell, who played at Alabama two decades ago, talked with Bryant on Tuesday, a few hours before the coach entered the hospital.

"He was in good spirits and laughed often. It was the best talk we've had since I've known him and I got to express many of my strong feelings for him," said Pell, who had not been as close to Bryant over the years as some others. "He talked about going to Florida and lying in the sun. That was Coach Bryant — he never looked back."

## Drake Resigns Sparkman Post

The second Madison County high school head football coach has announced his resignation from football this year.

Coach Crawford Drake will step down as the Senators' head coach after four seasons at the Sparkman helm, but will remain at Sparkman as the assistant principal.

Drake led the Senators to their first ever playoff berth last fall with an 8-3 record and the Madison County championship. He joins Mike Forehand, Gurley's head coach for the past seven years, who earlier this year announced his resignation from football.

"I've been leaning toward administrative work the last four or five years," said Drake. "It's hard to get out and I know I'll regret it, but if I don't make the move now, another opportunity may not come along for some time. Also it gives me an opportunity to remain at Sparkman and I'll have the best principal anywhere in Mr. (Steve) Murray to work with."

"I'm not having second thoughts, but I regret leaving such a good bunch of kids. I will miss the particular closeness that is unique between a coach and the players. But, to me, the move is 100 percent positive. I'm not trying to get out of coaching and away from something bad. I'm just moving to something good."

Drake started his coaching career in Florida, where he coached for six years. Then he moved to Ashford in South Alabama, where he carried his 1974 team to the finals of the state Class 2A playoffs. He then came to Sparkman in 1979.

Drake will still be in charge of spring training this year and the head coaching position will not be filled until the end of the year.

Applications for the position may be sent to Mr. Steve Murray, Sparkman High School, Toney, AL 35773. — YVONNE TERRY

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165/70R13	\$ 79.53	<b>\$51.69</b>	\$1.51
175/70R13	88.70	<b>57.66</b>	1.66
185/70R13	98.14	<b>63.79</b>	1.90
185/70R14	104.72	<b>68.07</b>	2.06
*195/70R14	109.96	<b>71.47</b>	2.35

\*Limited Quantities

MICHELIN X—WHITEWALL



SIZE	LIST	SALE	F.E.T.
P185/80R13	\$106.38	<b>\$69.15</b>	\$2.20
P175/75R14	104.68	<b>68.04</b>	1.83
P185/75R14	115.45	<b>75.04</b>	2.14
P195/75R14	121.23	<b>78.80</b>	2.24
P205/75R14	129.38	<b>84.10</b>	2.51
P215/75R14	134.73	<b>87.57</b>	2.62
P215/75R15	137.15	<b>89.15</b>	2.68
P225/75R15	141.73	<b>92.12</b>	2.86
P235/75R15	148.63	<b>96.61</b>	3.21

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SIZE	LIST	SALE	F.E.T.
155R12	\$ 69.71	<b>\$45.31</b>	\$1.35
145R13	64.42	<b>41.87</b>	1.28
155R13	73.53	<b>47.79</b>	1.46
165R13	82.53	<b>53.64</b>	1.55
165R14	85.97	<b>55.88</b>	1.68
175R14	94.47	<b>61.41</b>	1.90
185R14	101.89	<b>66.23</b>	2.16
165R15	91.26	<b>59.32</b>	1.72



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SIZE	LIST	SALE	F.E.T.
155R12	\$54.28	<b>\$38.00</b>	\$1.41
145R13	48.03	<b>33.62</b>	1.24
155R13	55.50	<b>38.85</b>	1.50
165R13	61.62	<b>43.13</b>	1.62
165R14	67.73	<b>47.41</b>	1.80
175R14	71.47	<b>50.03</b>	1.89
185R14	76.88	<b>53.82</b>	2.02
165R15	72.03	<b>50.42</b>	1.85

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175/70R13	66.63	46.64	1.66
185/70R13	73.97	51.78	1.83
185/70R14	81.37	56.96	1.94
195/70R14	81.73	57.21	2.14



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## 'Bear' Bryant 1913-1983

By The Associated Press

Here are some reactions to the death Wednesday of former Alabama football coach Bear Bryant:

"He was more than the finest football coach who ever lived. He was a great teacher, a great man and a dear personal friend." — Joab Thomas, president of the University of Alabama.

"I always thought of Coach Bryant as a greater man than football coach because of what he has meant to so many people during their playing career and afterwards — Ray Perkins, Bryant's successor as Alabama's head coach.

"The notoriety Bryant brought to our city, you couldn't buy that with a city budget." — Mayor Tom Wynne III of Fordyce, Ark., where Bryant grew up.

"He was just like a daddy to us all," — Jack Rutledge, assistant coach under Bryant for two decades.

"He was like a father to me," — Don McNeal, cornerback for the Miami Dolphins and a former Alabama player.

"He was a godfather for everybody in coaching. The thing I'm saddest about was that he was looking forward to having some time on his own to hunt and fish and play golf. I remember last time I saw him that's what he remarked to me. That he just wanted to spend some time doing things that he wanted to enjoy." — Steve Sloan, coach at Duke and one of Bryant's star quarterbacks.

"There's no doubt he'll go down on record as one of the greatest of them all... He touched a lot of lives during his coaching days and there's probably not a single person who played for him who wouldn't back him to the very end." — Frank Howard, retired coach at Clemson.

"It is an irreparable loss to athletics and to America. Coach Bryant as a man influenced more young men as players and coaches than any man who ever touched the game. We have all suffered a great loss in his death but we were blessed for 69 years with his presence." — Jerry Stovall, coach at Louisiana State.

"It's a very difficult thing for me to say anything about something that hurts me and my family as much as this does. It's just a great, great personal loss." — John David Crow, coach of Northeast Louisiana and Bryant's only Heisman trophy winner.

"He was bigger than the game itself. I am very proud I knew him personally and was able to interact with him throughout the years. I doubt whether anyone will ever approach his record in terms of his total impact on the game of football." — Barry Switzer, head coach at Oklahoma.

"He was man's man. There was nothing phony or pretentious about him. He was very honest, very blunt and very understanding. He was not just a great coach but a great man. I feel I lost a part of my life." — Bob Fry, offensive line coach of the New York Jets, a player under Bryant at Kentucky.

"To some people, he had a gruff

# Tribute Bryant Boys Remember

MONTGOMERY (AP) — State House Speaker Tom Drake, who played and coached under Paul "Bear" Bryant, said the late football coach cared far more about producing good men than good athletes.

Word of Bryant's death came during the Alabama Legislature's special session Wednesday. Rarely do the legislative chambers become totally silent, but Bryant's death had that stilling effect.

Later, Drake recounted his relationship with Bryant at the University of Alabama.

"The first consideration he had was morals," Drake said. "The first thing he told his players was, 'Gentlemen, you are here to be football players. But the first thing you are here to be is men — good men.'"

"He stressed character to them more than anything else when I was there," Drake said. "He was a lot more interested in what they were going to be after they got out of school than what kind of football player they were."

In the Senate, one of Bryant's close friends, state Sen. Ryan deGraffenried of Tuscaloosa, choked back tears Wednesday as he paid an impromptu tribute to the nation's winningest football coach.

"He probably contributed more to the University of Alabama and the education of young men than any man I've ever known," deGraffenried said.

"I know God will grant to him the compassion of living with all the great men in history," the senator said.

In the House, Drake recalled how he played for Bryant in the 1953 Blue-Gray All-Star Football Classic in Montgomery. Drake was a

senior at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga and Bryant was in his final year at the University of Kentucky.

"He told me if I ever needed a job to call him," Drake said. And five years later, Drake did.

Bryant was in his first year as football coach at Alabama when he hired Drake as the university's first wrestling coach and an assistant football coach.

"He paid me my tuition and a little money," said Drake, who earned a master's degree and law degree with Bryant's help.

"He's like a father to me. A lot of what I am today I contribute to Coach Bryant."

Drake said no matter how hard he worked as a coach, Bryant always worked harder. "You never got there before him. He was always there," Drake said.

Drake said Bryant had an indescribable quality that allowed him to get the most out of a person.

"He could get more out of you than anybody I've ever seen. He was a disciplinarian, but there was more. He had something that would draw you to him," Drake said.

Drake left Alabama in 1961 to set up a law practice in Cullman, but he said Bryant always kept in touch with him, as he did most of his former players and coaches.

"He could tell you all about them," Drake said. "He was an amazing man."

Drake said Bryant sometimes toyed with the idea of getting into politics, but didn't because coaching was his first love.

"There are a lot of politicians happy he didn't run," Drake said.



(Times Photo by Dave Dieter)

## 'Legend' Will Live On in Lives He Touched Bryant Will Be Missed, But Not Forgotten

By ED SHEARER  
AP Sports Writer

"The word legend is sometimes thrown around too loosely, but he is truly a legend."

Those were the words Paul William "Bear" Bryant used to describe Adolph Rupp just over four years ago when the Kentucky basketball coach died.

They also fit well as an epitaph for Bryant, who died Wednesday of a heart attack four weeks to the day after ending a brilliant 38-year coaching career by steering his 25th Alabama football team to a Liberty Bowl triumph over Illinois. It was the 323rd victory of his career, most ever attained by a college coach.

His death came as a shock to athletic officials in the Southeastern Conference.

"The entire University of Alabama community, the state, and indeed, the country grieve at this shocking and terrible loss," said Joab Thomas, president of the University of Alabama. "He was more than the finest football coach who ever lived. He was a great teacher, a great man and a dear personal friend."

"Intercollegiate athletics has lost a great champion," said Carl Maddox, athletic director at Mississippi State. "Paul will be sorely missed in the Southeastern Conference where all of us have been so grateful over the years for his influence and where his achievements are so indelibly etched."

"I always thought of Coach Bryant as a greater man than football coach because of what he has meant to so many people during their playing careers and then afterwards," said Ray Perkins, the former Alabama star who stepped down as coach of the New York Giants to succeed Bryant at Alabama.

"We are all deeply saddened by Coach Bryant's

death," said Coach Jerry Stovall of Louisiana State University. "It is an irreparable loss to athletics and to America. Coach Bryant as a man influenced more young men as players and coaches as any man who ever touched the game. We have all suffered a great loss in his death, but we were blessed for 69 years with his presence."

"The news of Coach Bryant's passing leaves me deeply stunned and grieved," said Dr. H. Boyd McWhorter, commissioner of the SEC. "College athletics has lost one of its greatest coaches and many of us have lost one of our most loyal friends."

"The Southeastern Conference and, indeed all of college athletics, are much the poorer for his passing, but much the richer for the heritage which he has left us."

"In my estimation he was the greatest football coach of all time, one that not only was a great coach but a great human being," said Coach Vince Dooley of Georgia. "Football will miss him. Everyone will miss him."

"It is a devastating loss," said Coach Emory Bellard of Mississippi State. "He was one of America's heroes. I think America has always been a country that loved and revered in their heroes. Coach Bryant was the epitome of college football and there will probably never be another man to have the impact on the college football scene he has had."

"He was more than a man you worked for — he was kind of a father figure and he helped me through some personal things," said C.M. Newton, the current Vanderbilt basketball coach who Bryant hired to run the Alabama program in 1969.

Cliff Hagan, athletic director at Kentucky, said

Bryant "left an indelible impression on every institution and student-athlete he touched. He was a special human being."

"I'm shocked and still almost in disbelief," said Warner Alford, athletic director at Mississippi. "It's almost like I thought a guy like Coach Bryant would go on forever. It's hard to believe he's not going to be around athletics."

Coach Pat Dye of Auburn, who was an assistant under Bryant at Alabama, said he was deeply saddened by his death.

"It is very evident what Coach Bryant has meant to me, the game of football and to the lives of so many people he has touched through the years," Dye said.

"His presence made this world a better place to live," Dye said. "He was like all great people who have come through American history. Though he may be gone, his teachings will last forever in the lives of those he touched."

"He received recognition for the games he won and for the honors he received, but the greatest thing about him was the many things he did for people that no one knew about," Dye added.

"I am deeply saddened because he contributed so much to the game and he's been such a factor in developing young men that have played for him and who developed such a sense of loyalty," said Coach Johnny Majors of Tennessee.

"He was indeed one of Alabama's greatest assets, setting standards of excellence and quality that made us all aspire for greater success," said Dr. Hanly Funderburk, president of Auburn. "We will miss this great man, but his contributions to athletics, education and the state of Alabama will remain."



the New York Jets, a player under Bryant at Kentucky.

"To some people, he had a gruff demeanor, but he had a warm spot for his players. I'll best remember him for the discipline he taught me. — Richard Todd, New York Jet quarterback.

"My God. He couldn't even enjoy his retirement." — Carmen Cozza, head football coach at Yale.

"I just hope and pray he will be rewarded for all the things he has done for people, not just for football." — Marty Lyons, New York Jet defensive tackle.

"The reason I came to Alabama was to play for Coach Bryant. It's bad enough to lose him as a head football coach, but to know he's passed away ... — Jesse Bendross, junior wide receiver.

"College athletics has lost one of its greatest coaches and many of us have lost one of our most loyal friends." — Boyd McWhorter, commissioner of the Southeastern Conference.

"His presence made this world a better place to live in. His teaching will live forever in the lives of those he touched." — Pat Dye, head coach at Auburn University.

"This country is so much better off for his being who he was and what he was." — Fred Akers, head coach at Texas.

"The world today needs people to look up to and we don't have many of them. The whole nation lost a legend in the same mold of John Wayne or George Patton." — Charlie Thornton, assistant athletic director at Texas A&M.

"The athletic world has lost a great coach and a friend. He's made a great impact on thousands of people. I still don't want to believe it." — Charlie McClendon, executive director of the American Football Coaches Association and former head coach at LSU.

"College football has lost its greatest coach and friend. I think I speak for all coaches on all levels when I say we're going to miss him." — Bo Schembechler, head coach at Michigan.

"This has to be one of the biggest shocks I have had since I lost a member of my family," — John Vaught, former head coach at Mississippi.

"I think he's the best who's ever been," — Vince Dooley, head coach at Georgia.

"He was a monumental figure in intercollegiate athletics, a man who set standards not easily attainable by men," — Joe Paterno, head coach at Penn State.

"In my opinion college football has lost the greatest coach of all time." — Bob Devaney, athletic director at Nebraska.

sta who stepped down as coach of the New York Giants to succeed Bryant at Alabama.

"We are all deeply saddened by Coach Bryant's



(Times Photo)

Steve Sloan Chats With Bryant

## Tennesseans Won't Forget Bryant

By TOM GILLEM  
Associated Press Writer

Some Tennesseans may have cursed the success of Paul Bryant's Alabama football teams that more often than not whipped Southeastern Conference foes Tennessee and Vanderbilt. But in death, they remember the "Bear" with respect.

Bryant died Wednesday following a massive heart attack in Druid City Hospital in Tuscaloosa, Ala. He was 69 and the most success college football coach in history.

The tributes came from Tennessee sportswriters and coaches who echoed the sentiments of countless football fans who learned to dread Saturday afternoon encounters with Bryant's Crimson Tide.

"He served his school, his state, his nation to the utmost in his chosen profession," wrote Sports Editor John Bibb in today's editions of *The Tennessean*, Nashville's morning newspaper. "He was, indeed, the best of his time.

"He won more football games than any coach in history by cultivating strong young men for duty and society by teaching them discipline, sacrifice and achievement," Bibb said.

Fred Russell, who wrote about Bryant's teams for over four decades for the *Nashville Banner*, said he never was comfortable with being considered a coaching legend.

"It embarrassed him, I think," said Russell, now retired after 50 years as sports editor.

When he retired on Dec. 29 after a final victory over Illinois in the Liberty Bowl, Bryant left a head coaching record of 323-85-17 over 38 years at Maryland, Kentucky,

and Kentucky basketball coach who Bryant hired to run the Alabama program in 1969.

Cliff Hagan, athletic director at Kentucky, said

### Duke Coach Awed by Legend

## Sloan Saw Bryant as Father Figure

RALEIGH, N.C. (AP) — Duke football coach Steve Sloan said Wednesday that like most players who played for former Alabama Coach Paul "Bear" Bryant, he was in awe of college football's winningest coach.

Bryant, who retired in December, died Wednesday of a massive heart attack while being X-rayed at Druid City, Ala., Hospital, where he had been admitted Tuesday after complaining of chest pains. He was 69.

"I guess I was like all guys who played for Coach Bryant," Sloan said in a telephone interview. "He was a father figure, but you don't get that close to a coach. I was sort of in awe of him. We had a pretty good relationship through the years."

Bryant, who had a 323-84 record in 38 years at Kentucky, Texas A&M and Alabama, coached Crimson Tide teams to five national championships. Sloan quarterbacked the 1964 and 1965 title teams, leading the 1965 team to a 39-28 triumph over Nebraska in the Orange Bowl.

Sloan also served as an assistant coach to Bryant from 1968 to 1970.

"I spent a night at his house a month ago and he looked good," Sloan said. "I didn't think he looked bad. The only concern he had was whether he should retire or continue to coach. I felt like he was going to retire and wanted some time for himself."

Bryant announced his retirement Dec. 14, just two weeks before his coaching finale in the Liberty Bowl where Alabama, which had lost four games for the first time since 1970, defeated Illinois 21-15.

"I feel coach Bryant was one of the greatest men of the century," Sloan said. "Certainly, his will to win will be a legacy for all athletes and people alike. Most of the things I learned in coaching I learned from him.

"What I'm saddest about is he was looking forward to have some time of his own to hunt, fish, do some things he wanted to do," Sloan concluded. "I feel like I've lost a part of the family. He was a godfather figure to everybody in coaching."

Texas A&M and Alabama.

The East Tennessee Chapter of the National Football Foundation and Hall of Fame had already contacted Bryant about accepting its coveted Neyland Trophy this spring. The annual award is named after the late Gen. Robert R. Neyland, who was Tennessee coach and athletic director.

Bob Woodruff, Tennessee's current athletic director, said the trophy will now be presented posthumously in Bryant's honor in April.

"His contributions to the game of football and to the men who played for him at several institutions of higher learning — and especially at the University of Alabama — were extraordinary and will be long remembered," Woodruff said.

Basketball Coach C.M. Newton, who was at Alabama 12 years before going to Vanderbilt, said he considered Bryant a father figure.

"You're shocked with the suddenness. You are never ready for that kind of news," said Newton, whom Bryant as athletic director brought to Tuscaloosa as head basketball coach. "The kind of relationship we had makes me feel like family. He was more than a man you worked for ...."

In Knoxville, Tennessee football coach Johnny Majors, whose Vols defeated Alabama last season for the first time in 12 years, said he was shocked to hear of Bryant's death.

"Everyone who knew Coach Bryant professionally had great respect for him," Majors said. "I am deeply saddened because he has contributed so much to the game, and he has been such a factor in developing young men that have played for him and who developed such a sense of loyalty."



(Times Photo)

Bryant Lost But Once to Majors



## Bear's Milestones

By The Associated Press

Highlights in the head coaching career of Paul "Bear" Bryant, who died Wednesday:

Sept. 1945 — Begins his career at the University of Maryland.

Sept. 28, 1945 — His Maryland Terrapins give him his first head coaching victory by beating Guilford College, 60-6.

Sept. 21, 1946 — Gains his first victory as Kentucky head coach as his Wildcats defeat Mississippi, 20-7.

Feb. 4, 1954 — Named head coach and athletic director at Texas A&M. Blames recurring incidents relating to a basketball scandal at Kentucky for his decision to leave the Wildcats.

Oct. 2, 1954 — Registers his first victory with the Aggies as his squad beats Georgia, 6-0.

May 14, 1955 — His Aggies are hit with a two-year probation by the Southwest Conference for recruiting policy violations. It was to be the last time a Bryant coached team was placed on probation.

Dec. 3, 1957 — Signs 10-year contract as head coach and athletic director of the University of Alabama.

Oct. 11, 1958 — Notches his first victory with the Crimson Tide, a 29-6 decision over Furman at Tuscaloosa, Ala., in a night game.

Nov. 7, 1959 — Gets his 100th career victory at Mobile, Ala., in a 19-7 triumph over Tulane.

Jan. 1, 1961 — Alabama defeats Arkansas, 10-3 in the Sugar Bowl.

Dec. 2, 1961 — Alabama is named national champion in The Associated Press poll for the first time after finishing its first undefeated and untied season with Bryant at the helm.

April 11, 1963 — Files \$5 million suit against the Saturday Evening Post for an article charging him and Georgia head coach Wallace Butts with fixing a 1962 game.

April 16, 1963 — A special Legislative committee in Montgomery, Ala., reports it had found no evidence to support the Saturday Evening Post's charges of game fixing.

Nov. 30, 1964 — Is voted Southeastern Conference Coach of the Year.

Jan. 1, 1965 — Alabama loses to Texas 21-17 in the Orange Bowl.

Jan. 2, 1965 — Despite the loss, the Crimson Tide wins its second AP national championship.

Jan. 1, 1966 — Alabama defeated Nebraska, 39-28, in the Orange Bowl to earn its third AP national championship.

June 20, 1966 — During a coaching clinic at Pepperdine College, he collapses from physical exhaustion and internal bleeding and is taken to a hospital.

Oct. 31, 1968 — Is named all-time Southeastern Conference coach by sports editors and writers.

Sept. 10, 1971 — Collects his 200th career victory as the Tide beats Southern Cal 17-10 at Los Angeles.

Jan. 13, 1972 — He and Harold Raymond win Coach of the Year honors from the American Football Coaches Association.

Nov. 22, 1973 — Coaches the Crimson Tide to its 500th victory, 21-7 over Louisiana State at Baton Rouge, La.

Jan. 1, 1979 — Alabama defeats Penn State 14-7 in the Sugar Bowl.

Jan. 3, 1979 — The Crimson Tide is named national champion in the AP poll for the fourth time.

Dec. 3, 1979 — Is named Coach of the Year.

Jan. 1, 1980 — Alabama defeats Arkansas 24-9 in the Sugar Bowl to complete its third and final undefeated season under Bryant.

Jan. 2, 1980 — The Crimson Tide is named national champion in the AP poll for the fifth time.

Oct. 5, 1980 — Alabama defeats Kentucky 45-0 as Bryant becomes the third college football coach to win 300 games.

Nov. 28, 1981 — Passes Amos Alonzo Stagg as the winningest college football coach of all time with his 315th victory in his 37th season, compared with Stagg's 57 seasons.

Jan. 11, 1982 — Receives a special award from the NCAA in recognition of his record breaking 315th victory.

Nov. 27, 1982 — Alabama drops its regular season final to Auburn and suffers its first three-game losing streak under Coach Bryant's reign.

Dec. 15, 1982 — Retires from coaching and announces he will remain as athletic director at Alabama.

Dec. 29, 1982 — In his final game, he chalks up victory No. 323 as Alabama defeats Illinois 21-15 in Liberty Bowl.

## Pell Calls Bryant 'Greatest'

By The Associated Press

Florida Coach Charley Pell, who played on three Alabama football teams, said Wednesday that Paul "Bear" Bryant was the "greatest coach that has ever been."

Pell said in Gainesville that he was

## Bryant's Record

By The Associated Press

The year-by-year head coaching record of Paul "Bear" Bryant, who died Wednesday (x-denotes national championship):

1945 Maryland	6-2-1
1946 Kentucky	7-3-0
1947 Kentucky	8-3-0
1948 Kentucky	5-3-2
1949 Kentucky	9-3-0
1950 Kentucky	11-1-0
1951 Kentucky	8-4-0
1952 Kentucky	5-4-2
1953 Kentucky	7-2-1
1954 Texas A&M	1-9-0
1955 Texas A&M	7-2-1
1956 Texas A&M	9-0-1
1957 Texas A&M	8-3-0
1958 Alabama	5-4-1
1959 Alabama	7-2-2
1960 Alabama	8-1-2
1961 Alabama x	11-0-0
1962 Alabama	10-1-0
1963 Alabama	9-2-0
1964 Alabama x	10-1-0
1965 Alabama x	9-1-1
1966 Alabama	11-0-0
1967 Alabama	8-2-1
1968 Alabama	8-3-0
1969 Alabama	6-5-0
1970 Alabama	6-5-1
1971 Alabama	11-1-0
1972 Alabama	10-2-0
1973 Alabama x	11-1-0
1974 Alabama	11-1-0
1975 Alabama	11-1-0
1976 Alabama	9-3-0
1977 Alabama	11-1-0
1978 Alabama x	11-1-0
1979 Alabama x	12-0-0
1980 Alabama	10-2-0
1981 Alabama	9-2-1
1982 Alabama	8-4-0
Totals	323-85-17

# Alabama Leaders Praise Coach Bryant

By RANDY QUARLES  
Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON — Word of Paul "Bear" Bryant's death Wednesday afternoon evoked disbelief followed by shocked sadness as Alabamians on Capitol Hill confirmed the initial reports from home.

Congressional aides from the state, many of them University of Alabama alumni, described the mood in their offices as gloomy "with some tears" as they digested the bad news and informed their bosses.

Members of the state's congressional delegation issued statements mourning Bryant's death less than a month after retiring as the school's head coach, and praising him for his accomplishments both on and off the football field.

"I was stunned and saddened to learn of the death of Coach Bryant," said Sen. Jeremiah Denton, R-Mobile.

"He will live on in our memories, because he did more than teach men how to be better athletes. He taught them how to be better men."

Denton said his family's close ties to Bryant spanned two generations.

"Bear told me that my Uncle Troy gave him his first job, and then he growled about how low the pay was," said Denton. "That was, of course, before he started coaching."

Bryant and Denton's uncle became good friends, the

senator said, and Bryant was a pallbearer at his uncle's funeral.

In addition to his own family, Denton said, Bryant leaves a much larger "family" of friends, former players, staff members, their families and his many fans.

"For that larger family, Coach Bryant was not only father but also leader and teacher," said Denton. "His legend will live forever in their hearts."

Sen. Howell Heflin, D-Tusculum, was at National Airport preparing to leave for a speaking engagement in New Orleans when aides told him of Bryant's death. His press secretary, Jerry Ray, described Heflin as "subdued" when he spoke to him on the phone.

Heflin had known Bryant for at least 25 years, Ray said.

"Alabama and the nation have lost a great monument — a hero — a leader of men," Heflin said in a statement released later in the afternoon. "However, his memory, his legend, his inspiration will live with us forever."

"Coach Bryant will be remembered for far more than being college football's winningest coach," said Heflin. "That alone is a tremendous achievement, but even more important is the positive influence and inspiration he has had on so many lives — so many that there can never be an accounting."

Ray said Heflin definitely would attend the funeral Friday, although at that time arrangements had not

been announced. Denton press secretary Steve Allen said, Denton also hoped to be able to attend.

Rep. Ronnie Flipppo, D-Florence, called Bryant's death a "tragedy." Another coach someday may lead teams to more than 323 victories — Bryant's record-setting mark — but no one could mean more to football or to Alabama, Flipppo said.

"All of the superlatives have been used up on this great man because he was in a class by himself," said Flipppo. "And 'class' is the right word, because Coach Bryant personified class on and off the field."

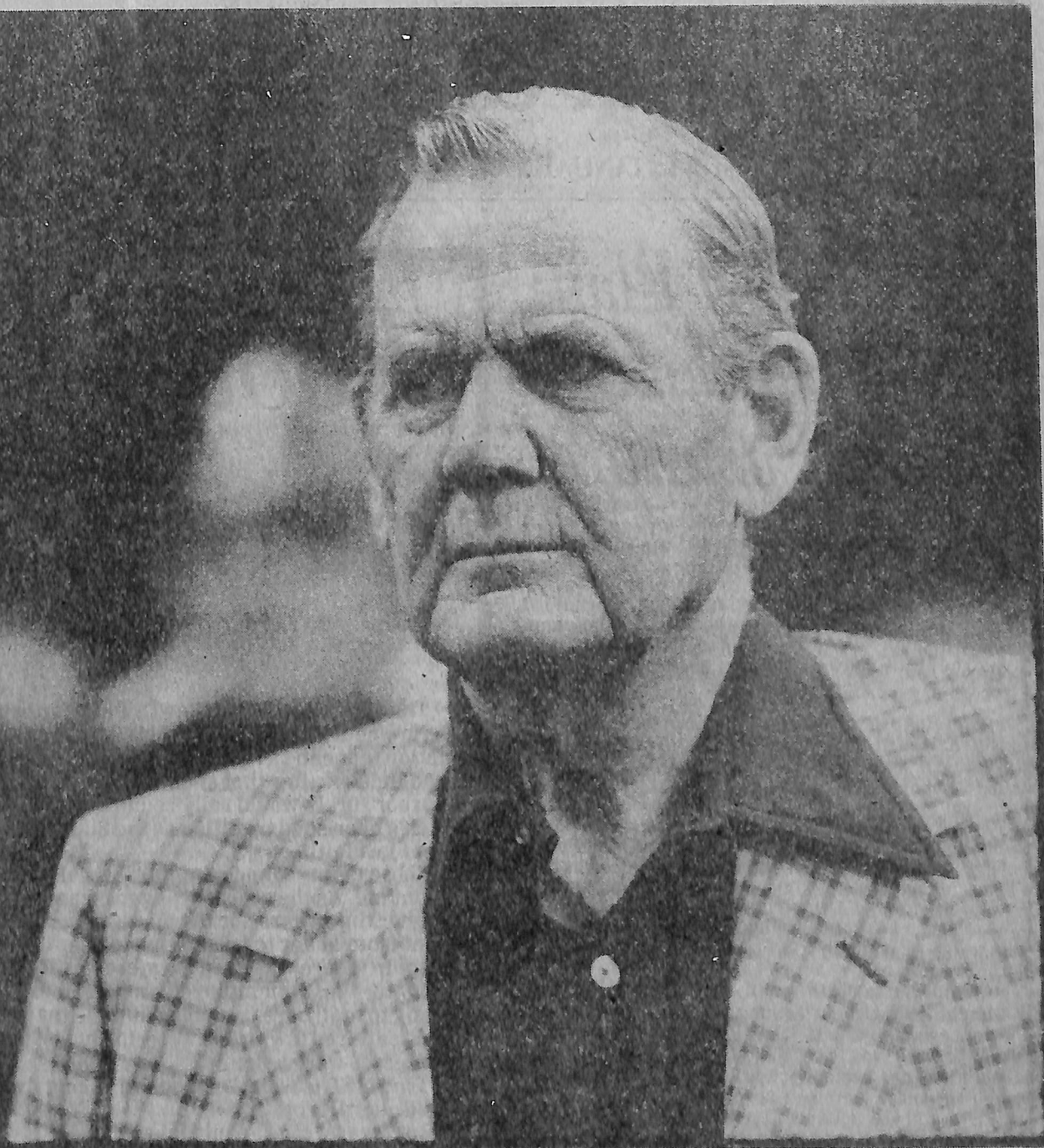
"Coach Bryant taught more than football. He taught people how to live, how to be successful throughout a lifetime, how to win humbly and how to lose gracefully," the congressman said. "His death diminishes us all."

Rep. Jack Edwards, R-Mobile, called Bryant "the complete coach" who was legendary not only for his football victories, but for "his love of his university, the feelings he had for the boys who played for him, his love of his family."

"I think it shows the measure of the man that at a time when he might have gone on for one more year, in his own mind he knew it was time to quit," said Edwards. "I think that's part of the whole man that we will remember."

"I don't know of any man in the state of Alabama more highly respected. We shall all miss him greatly."

(Times Photo by Dudley Campbell)



...Dye Mourns Bryant's Passing



Wednesday that Paul "Bear" Bryant was the "greatest coach that has ever been." Pell said in Gainesville that he was shocked to hear of Bryant's death.

"I talked with Coach Byrant yesterday morning and he was in good spirits and laughed often," Pell said in Gainesville. "It was the best talk we've had since I've known him. And I got to express many of my strong feelings for him."

"To get this news at this time makes it even more shocking. In our eyes and mind, he is the greatest coach that has ever been."

Bryant, the winningest coach in college football with 323 victories and 84 losses over 38 seasons, died of a massive heart attack at a Tuscaloosa hospital. He was admitted Tuesday with chest pains.

Pell went to Alabama as a 180-pound halfback who had played only one season of high school football. He wound up starting for three years and was a member of the Tide's 1961 national championship team.

Miami Coach Howard Schnellenberger, reached on a recruiting trip in Pittsburgh, said Bryant's death marked the passing "of a great man."

"It's certainly a terrific shock and a real sadness because I had spoken with him not too long ago ... It comes as a complete surprise to me and certainly saddens me because he was such a great man," Schnellenberger said.

As Kentucky's football coach, Bryant had recruited Schnellenberger to play for the Wildcats. And in 1961, Schnellenberger rejoined Bryant as an assistant coach at Alabama where he worked for five years.

"He influenced my life in so many ways," Schnellenberger said.

## White Follows Bear's Advice

CHAMPAIGN, Ill. (AP) — Illinois Coach Mike White says Paul "Bear" Bryant advised him to stay in college football as the two met for the last time in Memphis.

"He felt he had exhausted his usefulness in coaching and didn't desire to do anything else," White recalled. "He told how he enjoyed being with me and strongly suggested that I stay in college coaching."

White, the last to face Bryant on the football field, said the legendary Alabama coach "was always a winner."

Bryant, whose Crimson Tide whipped Illinois 21-15 Dec. 29 in the Liberty Bowl in Memphis, died of a heart attack Wednesday in a Tuscaloosa, Ala. hospital.

"The Liberty Bowl was his day, and it's even more so than ever now," said White, who was on an East Coast recruiting trip. He said he learned of Bryant's death while talking with former Philadelphia Eagle Coach Dick Vermeil.

"I shared with him how much I really enjoyed spending the last four days of the Liberty Bowl with Coach Bryant, and how impressed I was with the strength of the man, the class of the man, and his humility," said White.

White said his talks with Bryant "had a profound effect on my career," because Bryant shared many of his personal feelings.

He said Bryant hoped young coaches he admired would stay in the college ranks.

"Then, he gave me a hug," said White. "I'll never forget it."



Coach Bryant Surveys the Scene From His Tower

# Dye Mourns Bryant's Passing

AUBURN — Like other Alabamians of all allegiances, athletic officials at Auburn University expressed shock and sorrow Wednesday after learning that retired Alabama football coach Paul "Bear" Bryant had died.

"When we went to bed last night, Sue and I talked about going over to visit Coach Bryant in the hospital," said Auburn head coach-athletic director Pat Dye, a former assistant coach under Bryant at Alabama. "We had heard his vital signs were good and that he was resting comfortably."

"We're deeply saddened by his death. Sue and I extend our deepest sympathy to Mrs. Bryant and to the rest of his family. It's very evident what Coach Bryant has meant to me, to the game of football and to the lives of so many people he has touched through the years. His presence made this world a better place to live in."

"He was like all great people who have come through American history. Though he may be gone, his teachings will last forever in the lives of those he touched."

"He received recognition for the games he won and for the honors he received, but the greatest thing about him was the many things he did for people that no one knew about."

Dr. Hanly Funderburk, the Auburn president, said: "Everyone at Auburn University joins in extending sincerest condolences to the family and friends of Coach Paul Bryant. Coach Bryant was indeed one of Alabama's greatest assets, setting standards of excellence and quality that made us all aspire for greater successes."

"We will miss this great man, but his contributions to athletics, education, and the State of Alabama will remain."

Auburn assistant coach Neil Callaway, a former Alabama player, said: "It was an honor to play for Coach Bryant. His death is a shock. Words can't describe how everybody will miss him. He did so much for so many people inside

and outside football. I don't think there'll be another one like him. He was a man's man. He portrayed everything anybody wanted to look up to in a person. He was hard, loving, understanding, tough, demanding, dedicated. Everybody will miss him."

Many Auburn players also paid tribute to Bryant.

Strong safety Bob Harris said: "Coach Bryant's death is a great loss to the institution of football. He influenced a lot of people's lives, not only the people who played for him but the people who played against him. I didn't get the chance to know him personally but you knew what he stood for through the people he influenced and what they accomplished."

Defensive tackle Donnie Humphrey said, "Coach Bryant's death is a big shock to me. There's nothing bad you can say about him. Everything he did was positive. I was fortunate enough to have met him when they were recruiting me, to played against him, and to have been part of a team that beat him. Not everyone can say that. He believed in what he preached. He would never ask anyone to do anything he didn't believe in or wouldn't try himself. Bear Bryant is college football. His influence will be around for a long time."

Defensive back David King said, "I was stunned at first, I guess just like everybody else. I don't think it will really sink in until I really think long and hard about how great the man really was. I know his spirit of winning and competition will live for a long time to come."

Quarterback Randy Campbell said, "Coach Bryant's death is a real tragedy to college football. To lose the greatest coach that ever lived is a sad day for college football. I feel for all his family, friends, former players and the current team. He touched a lot of lives. I feel that I am just fortunate to have been on the same field that he was on. It was quite an honor to have shared the same presence with such a great man."

# Hayes Recalls 'Whipping'

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — Woody Hayes coached against Bear Bryant only once. The former Ohio State coach still vividly remembers the 35-7 beating the Buckeyes took in the 1978 Sugar Bowl.

"He beat my pants off," Hayes said upon learning of the retired Alabama football coach's death Wednesday of a heart attack.

"That is a shock. I certainly respected the man. I kept telling you fellas that he was ill. He hasn't been in good health for several years. He didn't tell me that. I learned it at clinics," Hayes said.

Like Bryant, Hayes is 69 years old and has had his own health problems. He overcame a heart attack in June 1974 and weathered stomach surgery in 1980, when a surgical sponge, later removed, was left in him.

"He was a winner. He was honorable and he won with good, clean ballclubs. His kids just played great football. They did in that game (1982 Liberty Bowl) against Illinois. They intercepted seven passes to win the darned

thing. And they needed every one," Hayes said.

At the time of their lone meeting, Bryant and Hayes ranked one-two among the winningest active coaches. Hayes ended his career with 238 career victories in 1978. Bryant went on to post 323, the most for any college football coach in history.

Hayes was prodded into discussing his defeat against Bryant six years ago, promoted by Sugar Bowl officials as a meeting of coaching legends. The two had more than 500 combined victories at the time.

"I learned he changed his coaching tactics for bowl games," Hayes recalled. "He bore down on his players too hard for bowls earlier in his career — the same mistake I made."

"He didn't bring his players to bowls so early later. His kids seemed looser than ours did (in the Sugar Bowl)."

Hayes said Bryant was "an enormously fine winner. He wrote me a wonderful letter after that and his wife wrote my wife a nice one, too. I've still got his letter in my files. It was congratulatory."